Window Beauty



Fabrics and Textures

How to Make Your Own Curtains, Draperies

Expressing Yourself

"Face-lifting" Windows for the Older Home

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Beginning at your Windows



Beauty in your home begins at the windows.

You can start at the windows in a new, unfurnished house and, using an exciting fabric of dramatic hue and distinctive pattern or weave, create a window effect that will set the decorating theme for the entire home.

On the other hand, you can take the shabbiest of houses with well-worn furnishings and an abiding atmosphere of gloom and, with a bit of bright cotton and a little love and effort devoted to choosing a flattering window treatment and making your own curtains or draperies, transform it into a gay and cheerful home.

Consider for a moment what the windows of your home provide for you. First, they let in glorious daylight to chase away gloomy shadows, enliven the colors of your furniture and accessories and give you a happy feeling. When you wish, you can gaze through your windows upon the beauties of nature, and the people and activities that comprise the fascinating world that surrounds your home. You can fling your windows open to catch the whisper of breeze on a hot summer's day, or to welcome the crisp, fresh night air as you sleep.

When you properly decorate these wonderful windows of yours, you add even more conveniences. Hang at your windows the sheerest of gathered curtains and you filter the glare of sunlight just enough to enhance its effect on the colors in your room and yet prevent fading; you block a view that displeases you. Add draw draperies of a heavier fabric and, with a touch of the traverse cord, you can whisk them shut to guard your evening privacy and provide congenial coziness.

"Sounds easy," you may think, "for windows that are architecturally perfect. But mine are problem windows. Some are long and narrow, others are oddly shaped; there are radiators under some and many are in the wrong places. Besides, there's a bay window that I'd like to get rid of (please don't), a couple of dormer windows and so on and on."

For you with one or more so-called "problem"

windows, we say: Where there's a window there's a way to decorate it, and beautifully, too. With this book at hand you can do it yourself, easily and inexpensively.

Not only will you be able to make every window in your home a "window beautiful"; you can create entire room effects with window treatments alone, because curtains and draperies can do for a room exactly what a flattering dress does for your figure. The right window treatment can make high ceilings seem lower, or low ceilings look higher; can make a small room appear more spacious, or endow a big room with a feeling of intimacy; can make a room seem quiet and restful, or dramatic and invigorating.

As you read this book—and you will be wise to go through it carefully before you begin at your windows—you will find yourself delving into the wonderful world of home fashion; of color; of pattern and texture and weave which make fabrics so exciting in this era of the wide, wide choice.

Then, as you begin this project of window decorating, do put something of yourself into it. Approach it with love and care and patience—and your success is absolutely guaranteed. For no matter how limited your budget, beauty lies at your fingertips today; truly, you have only to reach out for it.

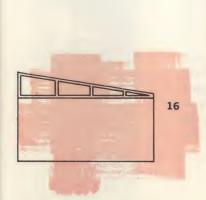
Now, relax and let yourself be creative. Take your time. And this above all: Choose only the styles, colors and fabrics you like, not the ones you believe are most sophisticated, or flatter your own personal coloring—or even those you rather dislike but believe would be more complimentary to your windows or your rooms. Always pick what you like for this is the only way to let your own personality be reflected at your windows and even in your home; it is the only way in which you can seem to be a part of your home. It is the essence of charm and graciousness, of individuality and beauty.

This book was prepared for you by KIRSCH, the name you know and trust for your window decorating inspirations and the drapery hardware that makes them all come true.



- 1 DOUBLE-HUNG WINDOW—most common of all window-types; has two sashes, one or both of which slide up and down. Unless it is too long and narrow or in the wrong location, this type of window is usually one of the easiest to decorate.
- In-swinging casement—opens into the room. If it is not decorated properly, curtains and draperies may tangle with the window as it is opened and closed.
- 3 OUT-SWINGING CASEMENT—opens outward. Both in-swinging and out-swinging casements may be operated by a crank, or simply moved by hand. Out-swinging casements are easily decorated.
- 4 RANCH or STRIP WINDOW—most often a wide window, set high off the floor; usually has sliding sashes and is common to most ranch-type houses. It requires special consideration when decorating to make it attractive.
- 5 AWNING WINDOW—has wide, horizontal sashes that open outward to any angle; can usually be left open when it's raining. Unless it is awkwardly placed or shaped, it's an easy one to decorate.
- 6 JALOUSIE WINDOW—identified by narrow, horizontal strips of glass that open by means of a crank to any desired angle. Decorating problems result only when the shape or location is unusual.
- 1 PICTURE WINDOW—one designed to frame an outside view. It may consist of one large, fixed pane of glass, in which case the window cannot be opened. Or it may have movable sections on one or both sides of a fixed pane—or above and below—which can be opened for ventilation. Sometimes there are decorating problems but, in general, a picture window is your big opportunity.
- 8 DORMER WINDOW—usually a small window projecting from the house in an alcove-like extension of the room. It requires a treatment all its own.
- **9** BAY WINDOWS—three or more windows set at an angle to each other in a recessed area. You can use lots of imagination with bay windows.

- 10 BOW WINDOW—a curved window, sometimes called a circular bay. The key to decorating any bow window is the selection of proper Kirsch drapery hardware.
- scanning window—often called "cathedral" window, usually an entire wall of the room. Its main characteristic is the angle at the top where the window follows the line of a slanting roof. This top slanting line often causes decorating concern—but the problem can be solved very effectively.
- DOUBLE WINDOWS—side by side pairs of windows. (If there are more than two they are called multiple windows.) They must be treated as a single unit; always think of them together, as one decorating element.
- 13 CORNER WINDOWS—any windows that come together at the corner of a room. With the right drapery hardware, they are easy to decorate.
- 14 FRENCH DOORS—sometimes called French windows, they come in pairs, often open onto a porch or patio. Usually they need special decorating to look their best.
- 15 SLIDING GLASS DOORS—today's functional counterpart of French doors. They are often set into a wall construction, but are sometimes part of a modern "glass wall." Either way, they need special decor that allows them to serve as doors yet provide night-time privacy.
- 16 CLERESTORY WINDOW—a shallow window set near the ceiling. Usually should be decorated inconspicuously. (In modern architecture, it is sometimes placed in the slope of a beamed ceiling, in which case it should rarely be decorated at all.)
- 17 ARCHED WINDOW—any window which is arched at the top. Needs special decorating.
- 18 GLASS WALL—usually a group of basic window units made to fit together, forming a veritable "wall" of windows. Curtains and draperies often require special planning.







Just as a basic dress is simple, primarily suited to your figure and needs only a scarf or jewelry for the finishing touch, so a basic window treatment is a simple one that is basically appropriate for your window. This means that it allows the window to function properly and is attractive at the particular type of

Select

window you are decorating. You can dress it up, if you wish, with such extras as a valance, swag or tiebacks. And, like your basic dress, you can usually vary the length—in accordance with the following rule—to make it most complimentary to the window.

Rule of curtain and drapery lengths: Curtains and draperies may come to the window sill, to the apron, or to the floor—but never to a point in between. This is one of the few strict rules of window decorating, and one to remember always.

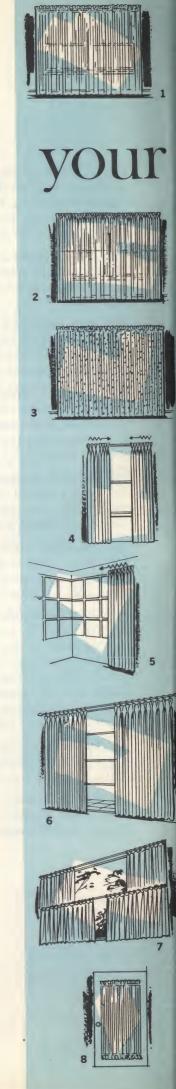
Only exception to this rule may be made where baseboard heating is concerned; then draperies may stop at the baseboard so as not to interfere with heating efficiency.

Here are the basic curtain and drapery styles, listing the window types for which they are usually suitable. If you wish, check back to the window sketches on the preceding pages to visualize how each curtain or drapery style would look at any given type of window.

- 1. SHIRRED GLASS CURTAINS—tailored curtains of any filmy, transparent fabric that are shirred on a curtain rod and hang next to the glass. (Use Kirsch adjustable curtain rod.) According to today's fashion trend, they are usually combined with over-draperies. Appropriate for these windows: double-hung, out-swinging casement, ranch, awning, jalousie, picture, dormer, bay, bow, double, corner, clerestory, glass wall.
- 2. TRAVERSE CURTAINS—pleated curtains of any sheer or semi-sheer fabric hung from a traverse rod so they may be drawn open or closed. They may be used alone or combined with traverse draperies or stationary side draperies. (Use Kirsch traverse rod.) Suitable for following window types: doublehung, in-swinging casement (when

extended beyond window); out-swinging casement, ranch, awning, jalousie, picture, dormer, bay, bow, double, corner, glass wall.

- 3. SHIRRED DRAPERIES—draperies of any light to medium-weight fabric shirred on the rod. Use them alone or in combination with shirred glass curtains, or over pleated traverse curtains. (Use Kirsch adjustable curtain rod.) Correct at these window types: jalousie, out-swinging casement, ranch, awning, double-hung, picture, dormer, bay, bow, double (with valance or cornice), corner, clerestory.
- 4. TRAVERSE DRAPERIES (Two-way draw)—pleated draperies of any medium to heavyweight translucent or opaque fabric hung from a two-way draw traverse rod so the pair draws open from the center toward the outer edges of the

















isic window treatments

window. They may be used alone (use Kirsch two-way draw traverse rod); over shirred glass curtains (use Kirsch traverse and plain rod combination); over or under traverse curtains (use Kirsch double traverse rod); or with cafe curtains (use two-way draw traverse rod plus Kirsch cafe rod). Appropriate alone or with curtains at these windows: double-hung, out-swinging casement, ranch, awning, jalousie, picture, dormer, bay, bow, slanting, double, corner. Traverse draperies also may be extended beyond the window, making them suitable for: in-swinging casement, French doors, sliding glass doors.

5. TRAVERSE DRAPERIES (One-way draw)-pleated draperies hung from a one-way draw traverse rod so the entire drapery draws toward one side of the window. (Use Kirsch one-way draw traverse rod; specify right or left-hand draw.) Although there are other special applications, this treatment is best for these windows: side sections of bay windows, corners, and slanting (special tailoring sometimes required).

6. CAFE-TYPE DRAW DRAPERIES—regular pleated draperies, always hung from a Kirsch decorative traverse rod in Dura-Brass finish. The rod is an important part of the window decor in this treatment and you can decide between "ring" slides and plain (ringless) ones. Appropriate for these windows: double-hung, out-swinging casement, ranch, picture, double, glass wall.

7. CAFE CURTAINS—any curtains hung from a cafe rod by means of rings, clips or loops. They may have scalloped or pleated headings. Use them alone in one. two or multiple tiers or with stationary or draw draperies. (Use Kirsch cafe rod.) Proper at these windows: double-hung. ranch, picture, dormer, bay, bow, double, glass wall.

8. SASH CURTAINS—sheer curtains shirred above and below on close-fitting rods, usually covering only the glass section. (Use Kirsch sash rods.) Preferably used at only these windows: inswinging casement, out-swinging casement, clerestory, and for doors with glass sections or "lights".

9. CRISS-CROSS CURTAINS-sheer, ruffled curtains with extra-wide panels hung so that one overlaps the other, and tied back for a voluptuous cross-over effect. (Use Kirsch adjustable criss-cross curtain rod.) Most appropriate at these windows: double-hung, picture, bay.

10. RUFFLED TIE-BACK CURTAINS-ruffled curtains of a sheer fabric, shirred on the rod and tied back. (Use Kirsch adjustable curtain rod.) Correct for windowtypes: double-hung, picture, dormer, bay, double windows.

11. SWINGING ROD TREATMENT—stationary pleated draperies or curtains. always hung from Kirsch swinging extension rods, so they may be swung back when desired. Most suitable for these window types: in-swinging casement, dormer. Used on occasion at these windows: double-hung, out-swinging casement. awning, jalousie.

12. DIMENSIONAL CURVED TREATMENT any stationary curtains or draperies shirred on a Kirsch curved adjustable rod, so they seem to project into the room slightly. May hang straight or be tied back. Most useful at double-hung windows.

13. ARCHED TREATMENT—stationary pleated curtains or draperies hung from a Kirsch arched rod or from Kir-Flex evelet rodding. For arched windows only.

14. SLANTING TRAVERSE DRAPERIESpleated traverse draperies, specially tailored with slanted tops to fit modern slanting windows. Always one-way draw, pulling open toward the high side of the window, giving a cascade effect when open. (Use Kirsch heavyweight one-way traverse rod.) For modern slanting windows only.

15. SWINGING DOOR DRAW DRAPERIES -regular pleated traverse draperies hung from Kirsch swinging door traverse rod. Rod and draperies swing right along with door. For in-swinging casements and French doors.



If you were asked to select a wardrobe for a tall, thin girl, think what type of clothes you would pick. Well, that's exactly the THE ALL: WINDOW

approach you take for your tall, narrow window; you pick a "dressing" for it that will make it look shorter—and wider.

It's easy. Make your windows look just as wide as you want by extending your curtains and draperies beyond the windows. When drawn open, the draperies hang against the wall; the whole window is revealed. You can accomplish this in any of three ways: (1) You can use a regular Kirsch adjustable two-way draw traverse rod, extend it to the width you want your draperies to be and mount it directly to the wall. (2) You can use a Kirsch Extend-O traverse rod which is held by means of supports attached to

the window casing. The ends of the rod are extended beyond the window at each side without actually touching the wall. (3) Or you can use Kirsch extender plates, special metal angle forms which are mounted horizontally on the top of the window casing. These plates extend beyond the window, and the traverse rod brackets are attached to them.

If, for some reason you can't extend the width of your curtains and draperies, you can still make tall, narrow windows appear somewhat wider by keeping your curtains and draperies short—to the sill or, preferably, the apron. Also, be sure they are generously full and billowy.

A valance or swag treatment over curtains and draperies also helps to shorten the appearance of a tall, narrow window. Tie-backs, when tied low on the sides, can help, too. Be sure the texture, pattern or print of your fabric is one that carries the eyes across, not up and down.



Tall, narrow window, before and after. See the dramatic difference! The bold pattern carries the eye across in this apron-length drapery that has been extended beyond the window. The valance also helps to shorten this long window.



Two sets of short cafe curtains extended well beyond the casing are an effective way to visually widen a narrow window. (Be sure the curtains are opaque!)



Draw draperies over draw curtains, both hung on a double traverse rod, will add width to a window. When both the curtains and the draperies are pulled open, they reveal the entire window.



A combination of draw draperies and cafe curtains serves a twofold purpose—total privacy when the draw draperies are closed; semi-privacy and light when the draperies are open. The over-draperies are hung on a rod extended beyond the window at each side.



A swag treatment can add drama as well as width to a tall, narrow window. This is easily accomplished with Kirsch valance pleaters. The sheer curtains may be shirred on a curtain rod, or pleated and hung from a traverse rod.



Curtains with tie-backs are good for narrow windows if you remember to put the tie-back low on the side (never in the middle or upper half, on a long narrow window). See how full, billowy curtains tend to enlarge the window area.



Three tiers of soft cotton cafe curtains on cafe rods reach to the window apron. Over-draperies are hung from an Extend-O traverse rod; this way your window can be made to look wider.





If you want to subdue the ranch type window in your home, use a solid color fabric to match the wall. This will make the window blend into the background and it will attract little attention.

Ranch

Relative new-comers to the window family, ranch-style windows are found in many contemporary homes. Although they let in light and air, they were designed for another distinct purpose—to leave more wall space in the small rooms of modern homes.

First question you must ask yourself, in planning curtains and draperies for ranch windows, is whether you want to feature these windows in your decorating scheme or subdue them. On this decision depend the curtains and draperies you select, and the placement of furniture under the windows.

If you decide to accentuate your ranch windows, you will want to use medium-tall furniture beneath them. High chests and bookcases are ideal. Tall accessory items such as bottles, vases and candlesticks will help lead the eye upward to the window. Then,

too, you will want your curtain or drapery fabric to contrast with the wall color; usually you will pick an "accent" color.

Should you decide to subdue your ranch windows, use low furniture beneath them, with wide-shaped accessories that attract the eye down and away from the windows. And you will want to use a solid color fabric that matches your walls as closely as possible, to avoid contrast.

Curtains and draperies at ranch windows should *never* be floor length; they should stop at the window sill or apron. Since ranch windows are wide but short (and usually placed high on the wall) such decorative touches as valances, cornices, swags and tie-backs are usually not appropriate, for they would make these windows look even shorter and wider.





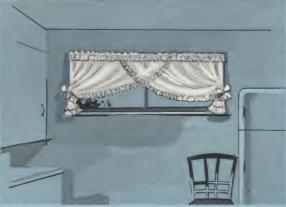


Feature your ranch windows with short, cafe curtains of a contrasting fabric to add an "accent" to your room. A small bold print will also accentuate your ranch windows if you have plain walls.

Sheer draw curtains are one of the simplest methods of decorating ranch windows. Ample light is admitted without glare. (The high placement of ranch windows usually ensures privacy.)

If night-time privacy is required, add traverse curtains or draperies over sheer draw curtains. Both curtains and draperies can be opened and closed at will to give you complete control of light and air.







To have privacy and still add color highlights to your room, use sheer cafe curtains with pleated over-draperies. The curtains filter the light during the day; at night, draperies are closed for privacy.

Ruffled Priscilla curtains are adaptable for the "not-so-wide" ranch window in bathroom, kitchen or dining area. With solid colored walls, you can add contrast with a bright patterned fabric.

This type of ranch window with panels swinging into the room presents a problem. Draperies or curtains must not interfere with the in-swinging panels. (See next illustration.)







For the window with panels that swing into the room, extend rods beyond the casing so draperies can be pulled back to allow the window to be opened. Use a Kirsch Extend-O traverse rod, mounted high to let the moving panels clear it.

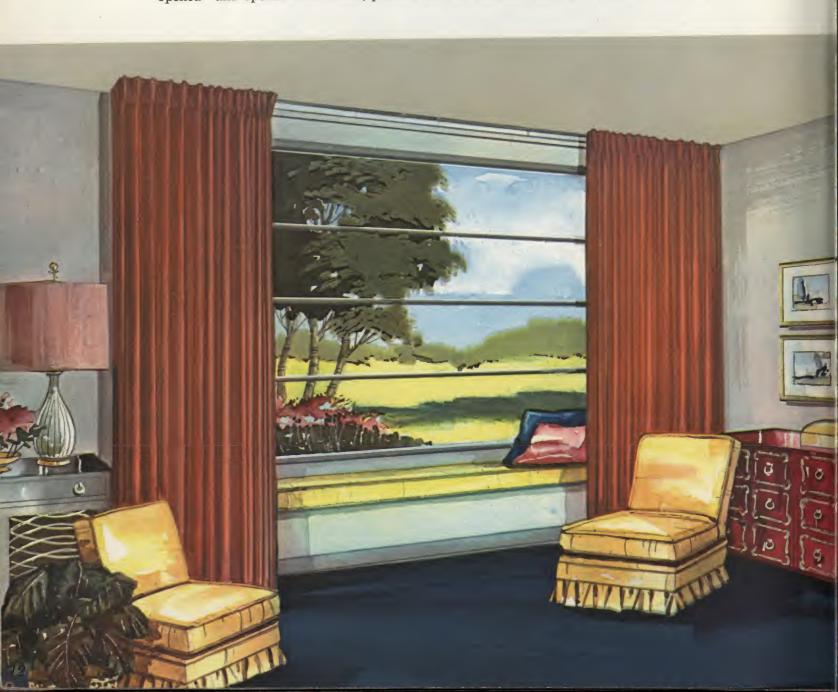
Tasteful bamboo cafe curtains are flexible as to opening and closing, and even when closed admit a softened, warm light. Bamboo traverse draperies are also available; are hung from regular Kirsch traverse rods.

Remember, curtains and draperies at a ranch window should come to the sill or to the apron, the points indicated in the illustration above. No other length looks right! Never use a large, showy print at small windows.



Some day this may be known as "The Age of the Picture Window." Big, broad and beautiful, your picture window is so-named because the original idea was to frame an attractive outdoor scene. As of today, some do—and some don't. Whether or not your picture window frames a beautiful view, it probably occupies a prominent place in your home, and so deserves your very best—your most loving—attention. You can make the most of its beauty and placement with the right decor, but by all means avoid a "goldfish bowl" result that would put the inside of your home on display before every passerby.

Stationary picture windows (those that cannot be opened) are relatively simple to decorate. If the outside "landscape picture" is there, by all means use curtains that can be opened—and opened wide. Sheer, pleated traverse curtains allow you to control sunlight



during the hours when the sun hits the window, and can be drawn back to reveal the view at other times. To them, you will probably want to add traverse over-draperies to ensure complete privacy at night. Both should be hung to extend beyond the window, so they will reveal the entire view when open.

With this window that cannot be opened and a view you prefer not to feature, you'll want to keep the window covered. In this case, use shirred curtains on a Kirsch adjustable curtain rod; they'll obscure the view and prevent sun damage to your furnishings. Add draw draperies over them for night-time privacy.

Two tiers of cafe curtains will also turn the trick at the stationary picture window that lacks a good view. Keep the bottom tier closed at all times to block the view and retain your privacy. Open the top tier to admit light.

If your picture window has movable venti-

lating sections at the sides, be sure that your curtains and draperies can be drawn open the full width of the window, out of the way—to let in the air. You can use sheer pleated curtains under draw draperies. Or use cafe curtains which can be pushed toward the *center of the window* when you open the ventilators; this way you get air but the amount of undesirable view is held to a minimum.

If the movable parts are at the bottom of your window and the view is good, decorate just as you would at a stationary window—with pleated traverse curtains and draperies. However, if the outside scenery isn't up to par, use two tiers of cafe curtains; a longer tier at the top of the window to hide the view and a short one below that can be moved out of the way when you want to open the ventilators. (Two tiers of pleated traverse draperies would allow the same flexibility.)

- 1. When possible, let nature help you decorate. Take advantage of outdoor loveliness with traverse draperies that ensure complete privacy at night, but open at a touch of the draw cord to welcome daylight and view.
- 2. To dim the outside glare and also protect your furnishings, sheer curtains under the traverse draperies are the perfect answer. Both draperies and curtains draw back to frame the outdoor scene, in full.
- **3.** With sweeping grace these wispy criss-cross curtains soften and diffuse the light. If your picture window doesn't look out on a particularly good view, sheer curtains next to the glass will obscure it, yet admit light.
- **4.** A cafe curtain treatment creates an interesting effect at a stationary picture window without a good view. The cafe curtains at top are easily pushed out of the way to admit light; the lower curtains can be left closed to block most of the outdoor scene.
- **5.** Tie-back curtains over cafes—in contrasting colors or figures—also offer a wide variety of possible effects, for decorating a picture window.
- **6.** Shirred curtains of a sheer material can be effectively used at a "viewless" stationary picture window. They let in light but afford partial privacy. (Usually you'll want draw draperies over them, to be closed at night.)
- **7.** Side windows? Use draw draperies extended beyond the windows so they can be drawn open and out of the air flow. If you want to block the view, use one or two tiers of cafes and push them toward the *center of the unit* when the windows are opened.
- **8.** When movable sections are located *below* a "viewless" picture window, use two tiers of cafe curtains (or pleated draperies). Push the lower curtains out of the way when you open the windows.

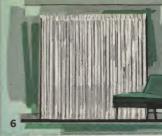


















You can easily make that exciting corner window of yours a beautiful center of interest for your choice of suitable styles is almost unlimited, tempered only by whether or not there is an excellent view.

As you plan for your corner window, remember that it lets in light, air and view from two directions at once. One side will receive direct sunlight at a different time of day than the other; and the view from one side may be fine while that from the other leaves something to be desired. Yet you must think of the two sides as one window and treat them as a single decorative unit for best results. Any style you choose must be attractive and flexible; it must assure you control of light and view. Today's fine drapery hardware helps you accomplish this.

To make the most of good outdoor scenery all around, allow your draperies to open to the full width of the window and let in every inch of that precious natural beauty. If the window is the same width on each side of the corner, you can do this best with one pair of draperies on a corner traverse rod, extended generously beyond the window on each side. Open, the draperies leave the entire window clear for view; closed, they give you a beautiful corner of fabric, a handsome backdrop for furnishings. (For controlling sunlight, add filmy traverse curtains underneath and use a *double* corner traverse rod.)

Where the view is not good in either direction, you can use the same treatment described in the preceding paragraph, but substitute gathered curtains for the traverse kind, and shirr them right on the rod; use a combination corner traverse and curtain rod. Another interesting effect for a corner window with a not-so-good view is one pair of traverse draperies and shirred curtains at each side, with a single decorative valance or swag to

tie the two sides together.

If you are draping the window with a good view or privacy at only one side, separate drapery controls are needed. You can use a pair of two-way draw draperies at each side; you can use one panel on a one-way draw rod at each side with the panels drawing independently toward the corner; or you can use a combination of both styles—a pair drawing toward the center at one side and a single panel drawing into the corner at the other. And, of course, you can add sheer curtains (traverse or stationary) under any of these draperies.

orner

If there is wall space in the corner that you wish to keep covered, there are two ways to do this. If you are using a pair of two-way draw draperies at each side, extend the draperies beyond the window and into the corner; draperies will open wide and their "pile-up" will cover the corner wall space. Or, with a one-way draw drapery at each side, hang a third panel of drapery (it will be stationary) around the corner on the ends of both rods; your draw draperies will close to meet this stationary corner drapery and will not be full rod width.





- 1. Hang one pair of draperies on a single traverse rod to let the entire outside view become part of your room. When they are closed, both draperies will draw toward the corner.
- 2. One pair of traverse draperies, each panel on a single rod, draw independently toward the corner. The inset shows how the two rods should be mounted to meet in the corner.





- **3.** Here an interesting effect is created by combining full traverse draperies and one wide matching valance with sheer apron-length curtains to block out an unattractive view.
- **4.** Floor-length draw draperies can be combined with one or more tiers of cafe curtains. The draperies, on a traverse rod, will cover the cafes completely for evening privacy.





- **5.** A graceful festoon valance turns this corner window into a lovely center of interest; amazingly simple with Kirsch festoon holders and two-way traverse rods.
- **6.** For a more casual effect at a corner window, two tiers of cafe curtains furnish the room with all degrees of light and privacy. This treatment uses two Kirsch cafe rods for each window.





7. At a short corner window in a kitchen, try shortie draperies for a trim pretty effect. These can be easily opened and closed to control the light at different times of the day.





- **8.** Split bamboo draw curtains are smart at a short corner window. Bamboo lets in light but cuts glare, blends beautifully with nearly every decor.
- **9.** Two pairs of draperies hung on separate two-way traverse rods, allow you to close the draperies at either side of the window while the other is open to admit light and air.



angled Bay

You, with a beautiful curving window or a bay, how fortunate you are—it's a thrilling window decorating opportunity! A curved bow window is an architectural glory, so elegant in itself that you don't need an elaborate treatment to enhance its natural beauty. Simple draw draperies are often as effective as the more elaborate treatments; and you can always use sheer curtains under the draperies to block out an unattractive view, or to prevent direct sunlight from fading your furnishings. Kirsch makes available any curtain or traverse rod—or combination of them—you could possibly need, "cut-to-measure" to fit the actual curve of your bow window.

The angled, or more conventional "bay," window usually consists of three or more double-hung windows. These may be treated with separate curtains and draperies for each side or section, or with just one wide pair for the entire group.

At any rate, the whole group of windows that makes up the bay—and including the window seat, if there is one—should be thought of as a single decorative element. Therefore, if separate curtains and draperies are used at each of



One of the most graceful of windows is the bow with its gentle curve. Simple draw draperies best reveal the beauty of this gracious window.



If your view from the curved bow window isn't just what you'd like, add sheer curtains under the draw draperies. They will also filter the sunlight to prevent damage to your furnishings.



Accent the natural beauty of a bay window by "dressing" it with simple draw draperies. They will help you make the most of a beautiful view.

and the

urved Bow

the windows, a decorating device such as a valance or cornice should be used to tie them together. Again, Kirsch makes all the hardware you need for any window treatment you choose—rods bent to the exact angle of your bay window. So don't hesitate to add all the frills and finery your heart desires, for here is a window



Use stationary sheer "glass" curtains under the draw draperies if the view from the window is unattractive, or for daytime privacy.



Frame the charming bay window with draw draperies and a matching valance. Semi-sheer curtains can hang next to the glass if you don't want to frame the scene outside.



Apron-length cafe curtains combined with traverse draperies are another effective way to decorate this window that should be the focal point of your room's decorating scheme.



Don't hesitate to add all the fuss and frills you want. These ruffled, criss-cross curtains are perfect for an angled bay window as part of an Early American setting.



Try ruffled curtains for the window treatment and cover seat cushions with matching fabric for an Early American room. Choose tailored draperies and gay cushions for a modern home.

that you can very properly dress to the hilt.

By way of similarity between the bay and the bow, both are central attractions in any room they grace. By way of contrast, the curved bow is the gracious goddess of windows; the less you decorate her, the more her beauty is revealed. The bay, on the other hand, is a gay young girl; the more you adorn her, the more charming she appears. If you decorate with this feeling in mind, you can't very well go wrong.

For either the bay or the bow window, curtains and draperies may be floor, sill or apron length. Valances can be used to frame either type of window. Sheer "glass" curtains or cafes are very useful under draperies, if your view isn't all that you'd wish. That is about as far as you should ordinarily go with a curved bow window; with a bay you can go on to frills and ruffles of all sorts. What a variety of possibilities are yours, to make either a bay or bow window the beautiful accent point of your home.





You can use just *one* pair of draperies at a bay window. These draw closed around the angle to the center of the middle window. Notice the window seat, and how it is treated as part of the window.



Here, one pair of draperies, on a regular two-way traverse rod, serves the center window. Another pair is divided, using a single panel at each side drawing toward the angle of the bay.



All too often dormers are found in rooms (usually bedrooms) where windows are both few and small. And all too often there just isn't any wall space around them to work with. Therefore, it takes a little thought and a bit of imagination to bring them to life.

If yours are typical small dormer windows, you need all the light and air they can possibly give. So you want a treatment that doesn't block ventilation or light, yet one that gives you necessary privacy at night.

Lacking wall space around your dormers, use extra care in selecting just the right fabric—one that is opaque enough to provide night-time privacy, yet lightweight so it can be pushed way back to let in light and air. Use this fabric for bright ruffled cottage curtains or for two or more tiers of versatile cafe curtains.

If heavier, tailored draperies are necessary, hang them from swinging extension rods and swing them back against the wall out of the way when you need light and air.

Fortunate you are if you have some wall space on either side of your dormer windows. Use the same treatments you would for ordinary double-hung windows and extend curtains and draperies beyond the casing, to make the full window available.

- 1. Two-tiered cafe curtains are an effective treatment for dormer windows. When pushed back, they leave most of the window clear for air and light. Closed, the same cafe curtains provide privacy.
- 2. To make the best use of all available room space, put a desk or vanity into the area beneath the window. Simple two-tiered cafe curtains are a good choice.
- 3. Wide dormer windows present no problem in planning a treatment. Draw draperies and a valance make a pleasing arrangement at such a window.
- 4. For a more feminine room or a room with a traditional air, crisp Priscilla curtains are the perfect way to decorate an arched dormer window.











asement windows



Traverse rods designed for French doors are just the thing for casement windows, too. These rods swing open right with the window and your draperies can be drawn as with regular traverse rods.



At in-swinging casements you can hang stationary draperies on swinging extension rods. Just swing them out of the way to open the windows. For more elegance use handsome Kirsch swinging cranes.



An unusual but pretty effect is created with an informal curved valance attached to flexible Kir-Flex eyelet rodding. Shirred curtains match valance, provide privacy.



A ruffled valance (again mounted so it won't interfere with the window) tops ruffly curtains of the same sheer fabric. Extender plates hold a double curtain rod. Where French doors and casement windows swing outward, you can use nearly any type of decor you prefer, for they present no special decorating problems, but the two top candidates for the title "Window Decorating Enemy Number One" share a common feature—they swing into the room. Actually, decorating in-swinging casement windows and French doors is easy; to ensure success, plan curtains and draperies that don't interfere with their moving parts.

As with so many window decorating "problems," the solution lies in getting the right drapery hardware and mounting it to do the job.

For instance, the ingenious Kirsch French door traverse rods allow you to hang regular draw draperies on your French doors to match the draperies at the windows. And you can use these same rods with equal success for draw draperies at in-swinging casements. The entire door or window casing can be covered—the rod swings right along with the door!

You can use regular traverse rods at French doors and casement windows, too, if you are careful to mount them high enough so the moving doors or casements will clear them. Also, you will need to extend them far enough beyond the window to let the draperies be drawn well out of the way of hinges and cranks.

Curtains at in-swinging doors and windows are usually hung right on the sash. You may use curtains with or without draw draperies. Valances can be used at casement windows *if* you remember to mount the rods high enough so the tops of the windows clear them.

and French doors



Extend-O rods to the rescue again! A traverse rod extended beyond the edges of the window, and mounted high enough to let the casement clear it, gives a beautifully functional drapery treatment.



Here a properly mounted combination valance and traverse rod allows the window to open and close easily and provides the means to window beauty. Bottom of valance must clear the sash.



Combine sheer curtains (shirred on oval rodding) with draw draperies to give your casement windows a finished appearance. Alternate curtain suggestion: cafes hung from round rodding.



The French door traverse rod treat ment, blended with shirred curtains, gives this room a cheerfu appearance and allows maximum use of the window for light and air Shirr curtains on sash rods.



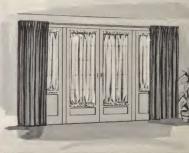
Sash curtains shirred on round rodding above and below the window panes are gathered in the center with big bow ties. Bows match draperies on Extend-O rod.



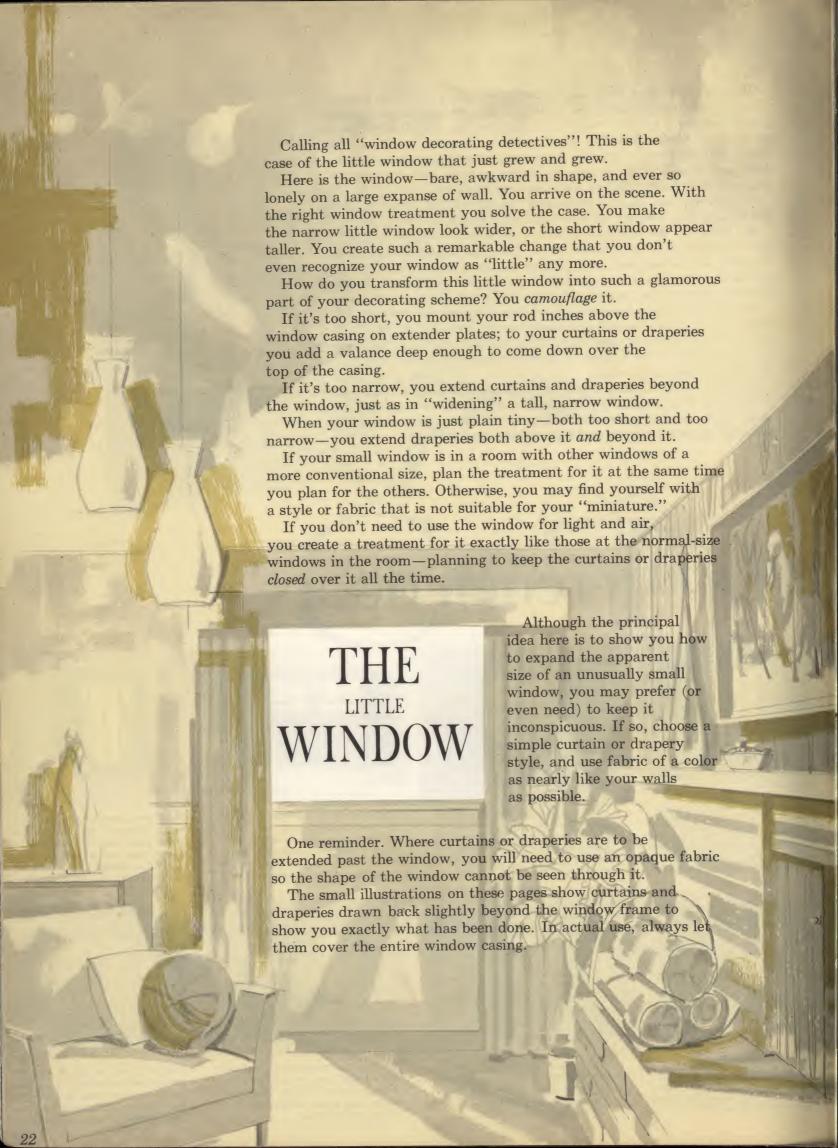
Often the most effective way to treat French doors is with draw draperies that match the other draperies in the room. Use Kirsch French door traverse rods.

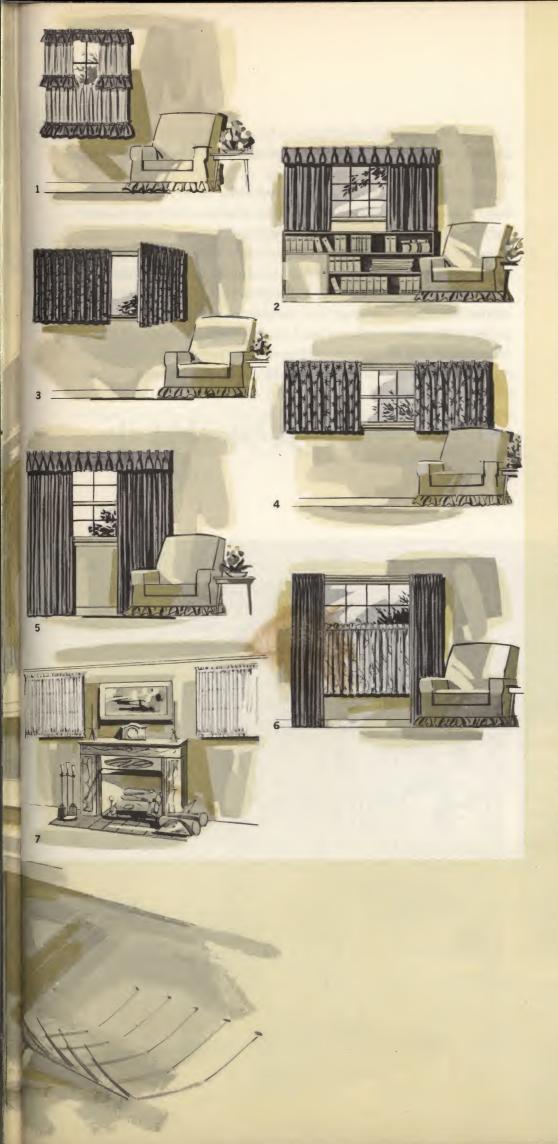


Pull these traverse draperies closed and you can still use the French doors! French door traverse rods again—they swing right along with the door.



Treat a group like this as one unit with shirred curtains and traverse draperies that draw to cover the entire group. Curtains are shirred above and below on round sash rods





- 1. Two tiers of ruffled draw curtains, each on an Extend-0 traverse rod, and a matching valance on a Kirsch curtain rod, make this window look wider than it actually is. The adjustable curtain rod is mounted to 18-inch extender plates, to avoid marring the wall.
- 2. When there is a bookcase or other chest-type piece of furniture under your little window, extend curtains and draperies beyond the window to the exact width of the furniture. Note that this drapery is also extended above the window, with a valance to cover the top of the casing.
- **3.** This inswinging casement window looks like *two!* A Kirsch swinging door rod with draw drapery swings open and shut with the window. On the left, a curtain rod is mounted so the stationary drapery hung from it covers bare wall beside the window. (Your secret!)
- **4.** Make a tiny window look like a modern ranch window by extending draperies far enough beyond the window on both sides to give it good proportion. (In actual use, the draperies should be pulled open only as far as the casing; don't reveal it.)
- **5.** If you want to use floor-length draperies at your small window, be sure to extend them well beyond the window. Make them wide enough to give good proportions to your finished treatment.
- **6.** This "little one" is all dressed up to look just like a regular-size window. Floor-length draperies hung from an Extend-0 rod draw back to the casing on each side. Opaque curtains are shirred on a rod mounted to the front edge of the window sill! They cover bare wall and they must be exactly the same length as similar curtains at the other windows in the room.
- 7. Where there is not room to enlarge the apparent size of your little window, treat it simply. Best way is to shirr curtains on close-fitting sash rods above and below.

With a little imagination or know-how, you can easily make a double window or pair of windows the outstanding point of interest in your room.

Visualize the two as a single window and you have the key to decorating them. No matter whether they are placed tightly side by side or are separated by a strip of wall, think of them as one decorative unit and give your imagination a rather free hand; adapt and adopt, to suit yourself.

Ruffled Priscilla curtains and criss-cross curtains are both attractive for close-together double windows. Draw draperies with sheer curtains next to the glass are always good. (Just one wide pair is recommended where there is no wall space between the windows.) Valances and swags provide a

fashionable way to unite the two windows into one handsome decorative highlight.





If your two windows are separated by a strip of wall, again think of them as one element for best effect when you decorate. You may wish to treat them individually; if you do, be sure you have the right piece of furniture or picture-grouping between them—one that unites the two windows into a single element in the room.

Or you can treat the two as one wide window, even if there is wall space between them. Hang a stationary or fixed drapery to cover the strip of wall between; use matching draw draperies at each window for one wide, dramatic fabric area. Again, a swag or valance adds unity to the treatment.

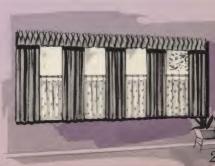
This same idea is effective for a series of three, four or more windows together. With one Kirsch cut-to-measure fixture, all the draperies for a window series can be on a single traverse rod; they can even open and close together, in what's called "multiple draw."

- 1. Traverse draperies with a matching pleated valance are used over sheer curtains to tie these double windows into one lovely arrangement. This treatment could be sill, apron, or floor length.
- 2. These twin Priscilla curtains are mounted on a stationary rod, with simple shirred curtains covering the lower half of the windows. The ruffled valance unites the two windows into one attractive element.
- 3. A more formal method of tying two windows together is by use of a swag effect over the windows. The swag is an easy addition with festoon rings or a valance pleater by Kirsch.
- 4. For a pair of windows with wall space separating them, you can treat each window individually; then unite them with an attractive picture arrangement or an interesting piece of furniture such as the love seat "featured" here.
- 5. Here a stationary drapery covers wall space between the windows and one pair of traverse draperies draws to meet it. Sheer gathered curtains and a pleated valance finish off the decor into one unified design.
- 6. A full-width valance ties this window grouping together, and one tier of gay cafes adds a note of informality. All draperies draw simultaneously in a "multiple draw," on one Kirsch cut-to-measure traverse rod.













When the overhang of the roof adequately shades your slanting window, the simplest method of decorating is with traverse draperies hung from the straight cross-brace of the window leaving the top part bare. If you wish to close out the light that enters at the top of the slanting window, you can use either fixed glass curtains or a pleated valance, made on a slant. It is recommended that you consult your decorator or drapery specialist.

One-way draw draperies that pile up at the high side of the window with a charming cascade effect, will follow the slant of the window and cover its entire area when closed. Use a one-way draw rod with a tension pulley.

LIDING GLASS DOORS

Beautiful, convenient sliding glass doors need not present a decorating problem if you remember their purposes as you plan for them. Like picture windows, sliding glass doors bring the beauty of the outdoors

into your home. Yet like other doors, they provide an entrance and exit. Draperies must be planned to allow the sliding glass door to be used as a *door*, to provide privacy when drawn, and to add a finishing touch of beauty.

Draw draperies are commonly used to decorate sliding glass doors, because they are both practical and handsome. They offer perhaps the only truly functional treatment.

Sliding glass doors are wider than most windows; they vary from six feet in width to an entire wall of glass. Therefore, the draperies will be heavy and will require a good strong traverse rod, preferably a Kirsch Superfine or a Kirsch cut-to-measure installation.

If your sliding glass door is ceiling height, mount your traverse rod on the ceiling. If there is wall space above the door, your rod may be mounted on the wall above the door casing. If there's space, the rod should be extended beyond the door on both sides so there is room for the draperies, when open, to pile up beside the door, covering only the casing.

If the sliding section of your door closes at the corner of a room, you will want to use one-way draw draperies so the entire drapery can be pulled to one side, leaving the corner of the room uncluttered.



If there is wall space on both sides of your sliding glass door, use two-way draw draperies extended be-yond the door. The draperies pile up on the wall, allowing full outdoor beauty to enter your home. (Here the rod is ceiling mounted.)

If the sliding section of your door closes near the corner of a room, use a Kirsch one-way traverse rod to pull the entire drapery to *one* side, leaving the corner of the room and the entrance-exit portion of the door uncluttered.

Where there is wall space above the door, mount your traverse rod on the wall about one inch above the casing. If your door is colored, you can paint your Kirsch traverse rod to blend with it.





WINDOW DECORATING YOUR

When you decorate your windows you are also decorating the interior

of your house; you are making it a home! Not only should you think of beauty and convenience at your windows, as we've been doing up to now; you must also think of making your entire home more beautiful with the window treatments you select.

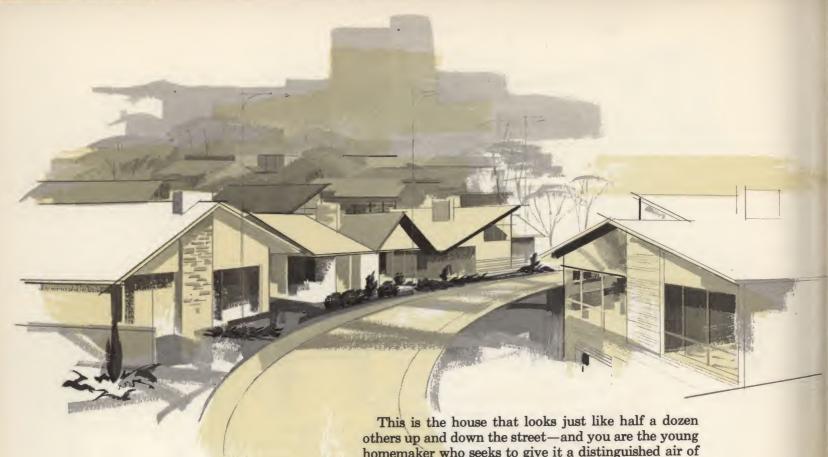
The most gracious home is one where all the elements are in harmony—where the house, its decor and its furnishings all seem to belong together, and are also in key with family personality. Your selection of colors and textures is a fascinating part of coordinating window and room decor with family personality, and we will go into their special relationship with the home and its atmosphere later.

But there is more to be accomplished through window decor than keeping it in harmony, for by properly decorating the windows of your house you can minimize undesirable characteristics such as high ceilings, small or oddly-shaped rooms, antiquity of design, or even "sameness" if your house is built exactly like ten others up and down the street.

Don't worry too much about selecting exactly the *right styles* for your type of house; the odds are great that you will do so instinctively. Chances are that if you chose a contemporary house, it is because you love clean, simple lines; you will therefore—if you follow your own taste rather than the fashion trend—also choose window treatments with the clean, simple lines that go well with such a house. If you have a Cape Cod house, it is undoubtedly because you like informal, provincial stylings, and your taste in curtains and draperies will lead you almost "automatically" to the informal window treatments that are best for it.

"Fashion dictates"—so they say. But when you allow fashion to dictate to you, the results can be catastrophic. *Beauty* is what you're after; *fashion* you must master. Pick from it only those elements which will fit graciously into your own home. Mold them, adapt them and make them go to work for you.

In these next few pages, watch for ways to make your window stylings go to work for you—to help you make your house into a more charming home. Read the pages on all the various types of houses including your own, of course, for remember you are now considering many possibilities, visualizing their applications in your own home, adapting them to your needs—and in doing so you are becoming more creative.



homemaker who seeks to give it a distinguished air of individuality against all odds. You can do it!

When your home is small and your budget strict, it takes careful planning. But with a little strategy you can achieve a more spacious look, a special air of individuality, beauty and convenience. Even though on the outside your house varies only slightly from others nearby—what you do with the inside is up to you.

Color has much to do with creating a spacious appearance in your rooms. The lighter the walls, the bigger your rooms will seem, and white warmed with just a tint of color does the best job of all. At your windows, fabrics of contrasting color tend to break up and shorten the seeming width of walls. Therefore, for small rooms, you'll want the predominant color of curtains and draperies to match the wall color as closely as possible. Use vivid accent colors sparingly.

You can make your entire house seem more spacious by following the same color scheme for large areasfloors, walls and draperies-in all the rooms. But if you do this, for the sake of sweet Peace, be sure to pick a color scheme the whole family

likes!

Pattern, too, can help create a feeling of space. Above all, keep flo-

rals and other "busy" prints small if you feel that you must use them in small rooms. Horizontal stripes and angular geometric patterns can make a small room seem longer and wider; when used vertically they can flatter the room with a too-low ceiling.

You can enhance the look of individuality about your house by being selective in your purchases of small items; look for a handsome nub in textured fabric, the unusual vase or lamp, a good print of your favorite painting. Or create an entire wall of drapery

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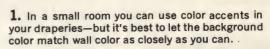
FOR THE SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT HOUSE where there is no window—to give the effect of a window wall.

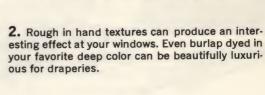
Do not worry if you can't afford the finest right now. There is often more real charm and beauty in a piece of driftwood picked up along the shore and artistically displayed than in the most expensive manufactured item. And it isn't necessary that your curtain and drapery fabrics be costly—just select them with care and don't skimp. Buy only those you can afford plenty of; the more generous your finished draperies, the more expensive they will look, no matter what they really cost.

Nowhere but *nowhere* can extra care, selectivity, and the ingenuity born of love bring forth more dramatic and satisfying results than in the individualizing of a so-called "development" house. Develop yours!













- **3.** A lovely drapery where there is no window can give your home a look of individuality. But keep colors and patterns quiet if the room is small.
- 4. This is a mirror! Placed on the wall directly opposite your picture window it gives double the effect and tends to make the room look bigger.



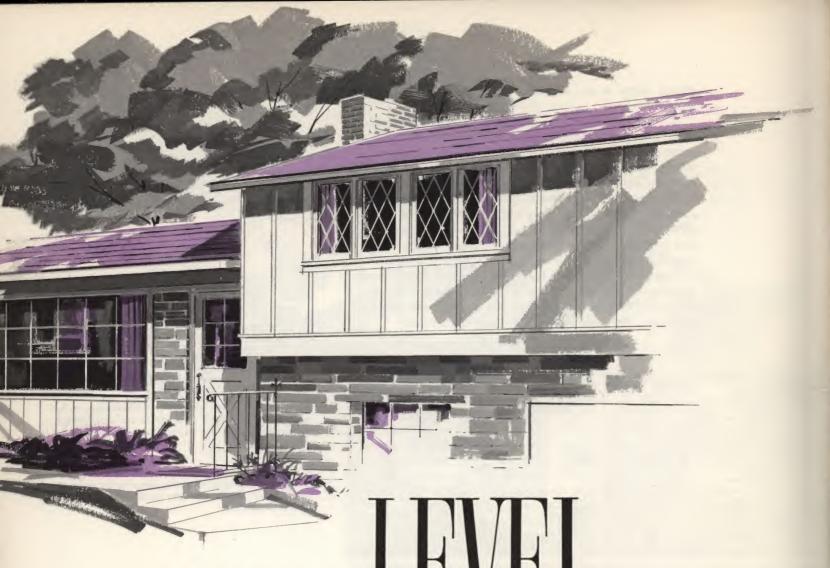


- 5. A beautiful window treatment can be the focal point of your living room. Too-large patterns can be overpowering in a small room; vertical stripes make ceilings seem higher.
- 6. Select apron length draperies if you wish, but be sure to make them full and billowy. Use plenty of an inexpensive fabric if your budget is strict.



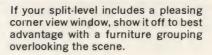


- 7. Little extra touches can put a beautiful spark in your bedroom. Window-widening draperies plus matching cafe curtains, coverlet and pillow covers give nice coordination here.
- 8. Bright curtains will help make your kitchen gay and cheerful and keep you happy while you work. Shop carefully among the hundreds of inexpensive fabrics, and make 'em yourself.



THE COLLABORATION LINE SPICE S







At a slant-top window, draperies need not detract from the beauty of the architecture. Hang draperies from the cross brace or, to cover the entire window dramatically, see page 26.

One of the strongest trends in housing today is the comeback of the multi-level house. This is partially explained as a reaction to over a decade of ranch homes. But there are other reasons, too.

Home buyers are in urgent need of more space for larger families and it is generally more economical to gain space by building at least part of the house on two or more levels rather than by sprawling all the needed space on one. Essentially, the split-level design combines some of the obvious economies of two-story construction with the modern trend toward ground-hugging lines. Also, many builders are using multi-level plans as a natural solution to bypassed hillside sites.

Another factor in the resurgence of the multilevel is the nostalgic appeal of the traditional twostory design. Architects have had access to a wide variety of exteriors and floor plans and your own split-level will certainly tease your imagination as an aspiring interior decorator.

Depending on its site and exterior design, your split-level may have the "feeling" of a traditional home, ranch home, or more contemporary style. Consequently, you will want to consider this overall architectural style in planning all your furnishing and decorating, including—of course—the windows.

If the rear of your house is built into the hillside, most likely your living-dining-play areas will be at the rear—at ground level—with the bedrooms in the front or two-story section.

For ventilation combined with privacy, high strip windows are often used for sleeping areas. Here, the "problem" of dressing windows is not so much a problem as a pleasure. These strip, or "ranch," windows require only short traverse draperies, and these could be "ready-mades," selected from an almost unlimited choice of fabrics and colors to complement the decor of your bedrooms.

You need only the courage of your own convictions to produce the effect or "mood" you want to let permeate your home . . . your home, which becomes most warm and welcoming when it reflects your own personality. Perhaps your taste runs to Early American or, just opposite, to Danish Modern furnishings. Or perhaps to a cool, restful, subtly sophisticated atmosphere which may be more indicative of your character. Whether your tastes be contemporary or traditional, it is very important for complete effectiveness, to keep the "mood" uniform throughout your home when choosing your furnishings, so your rooms will "hang together."

In keeping with this unity in your decor, choose your accessories such as throw rugs, cushions, and so on, with a definite color scheme in mind. A chair of bright or subdued print is best complemented when your draperies harmonize with a color picked from this print. If your furnishings are in solid colors, a good contrast at the windows is always pleasing to the eye.

Your multi-level home can mean the realization of all your hopes and dreams—winning the admiration of all who see it. Simple devices, such as the textures, patterns and colors you use, can produce enrichment far beyond the investment.



Let draperies open the full width of a handsome picture window. Good seating arrangement here provides comfort and attracts attention to the view.



Modern strip windows are found in many split-level houses. For these, short draperies are completely functional, neat and attractive.



Well-tailored cafe curtains are smart at a strip window in the bedroom. Shiny brass rods should be considered as part of the treatment, an interesting room accent.



If you're leaning toward a traditiona theme in decorating your split-level handsome pleated swags like this car add final perfection. Use Kirsch valance pleaters for this effect.

From out of the west, where wide vistas and distant mountains greet a beauty-hungry eye through the clear glass of a broad view window, comes today's most popular type of home architecture. Not even the smallest American town has escaped the sweeping influence of the modern ranch-style house. Why is this? Because it's clean, contemporary, handsome and just as American as T-bone steaks from a Texas steer.

It may be located anywhere, this ranch-type house of yours. It may be big as a mansion or small as a cottage, but one thing we can be sure of—it has some ranch-style or "strip" windows and at least one good-sized view window (with or without a justifiable view). In addition, it may boast sliding glass doors, glass walls or even a handsome "cathedral" window.

Your ranch-style house is a product of contemporary American thinking. It reflects current ideas of convenience, neatness and easy upkeep. As you look about you in drapery departments and decorator shops you will find these same ideas carried out in curtain and drapery fabrics—in new synthetics, and the latest weaves of natural fibers. Bold, modern designs, intertwinings of metal and wood fibers, and new concepts of color coordination bring you a wide range of materials suitable for the windows of this modern home.

Although the ranch-type house is of American origin, there is often evidence of Far East influence in the flexibility of interior design—with room converging upon room and screens sometimes replacing walls, with a single room serving two or more purposes. Thus, also, is the Far East influence felt in current decor with the use of shutters replacing blinds, with decorative screens, oriental fabric motifs and the expansive use of bamboo for curtains—all of which are quite proper in your ranch house.



If your ranch house is in a naturally beautiful setting, nature will help you decorate. Take your color cue from the natural surroundings—a blue from sky or water seen through the window, a green from grass or trees, or the earth-tones. And, of course, be sure all curtains and draperies are traverse style so they can be drawn way back to

let in the beauty.

If the setting is lacking in natural beauty, look for the dramatic in fabric design, the unusual in texture, and the boldness in color. Make your windows beautiful from the inside point of view.

If some of your rooms seem a bit too small, read pages 30 and 31 for ideas you can adapt to make them appear larger.

Use color and design daringly, be broad in your ideas—and your ranch home will reflect the vital, imaginative America of today!



A big, big window or a wall of drapery—which?
It could be either, actually. If you don't have a
wide window, go ahead and treat the wall for a
very luxurious contemporary highlight.



Ranch-type windows? Simplicity-is the word to remember; shortie pleated traverse draperies, the perfect treatment. Blend drapery color with wall color to make the window less obvious.



Use tall accessories and bright fabric if you want to highlight the ranch window—and do it by all means if you need more oolor or pattern in your room.



Lucky you with a window like this! Sloping roof should provide ample shade. Draw draperies are the perfect convenience; add sheer traverse curtains if you must filter sunlight.



Note how easy it is to let the window carry the pattern accents in a modern room. Cornice matches wall.



Design of draperies at a sliding glass door should blend well with the outdoor scene. Also, you can pick your colors from nature's handiwork, from sky or grass or earth.



These days cafe curtains are perfectly proper in a living room, in a ranch-style house. Make them luxurious as you will, of handsome fabric, lined, tailored to perfection.



Cafe curtains for the kitchen will be gay and informal. Choose bright colors compatible with the color scheme, in a fabric that is sturdy and easy to launder and keep fresh-looking.



Lingering today in every variation of the Cape Cod house, new or old, there lives an historic aura of quaint charm. It is this characteristic which endears Cape Cod architecture to so many and which should always be preserved in decorating.

The Cape Cod house is truly an American heritage. It was born in the early days of the northeast seaboard when whaling captains and their crews braved distant storm-tossed seas in pursuit of their huge quarry, while families and merchants waiting back home battened down against the wild Atlantic winds of snow-swept coastal winters. Here were strict, determined men and women close to nature's fiercest storms—and theirs must be a home that was strong and practical and at the same time endowed with beauty. And so, from materials near at hand, they constructed their clapboard houses with low-pitched roofs, big central fireplaces and wide masonry chimneys.

Although the earliest Cape Cod windows were few and small, increasing prosperity soon permitted the larger windows we know today. Usually double-hung, they always boast a myriad of small "lights" or panes, separated by graceful narrow mullions. They are decorated most successfully when you capture the traditional New England flavor in style and fabric.

The Cape Cod house literally cries out for honest simplicity of decor. In this setting, all the beauty of provincial prints, ginghams, and the rough-in-hand textures of homespuns shines forth, and these fabrics in turn enhance the beauty of the provincial architecture.

It is not necessary for you to try to reproduce the exact designs,

fabrics, colors, or styles actually used in early New England to create in your Cape Cod house an aura of authenticity. Keep simplicity your motto, and shop broadly in today's abundance of Early American fabrics for the designs and colors you like.

Keep curtain and drapery styles simple, too. Draw draperies are perfectly proper; stationary draperies on swinging cranes, ruffled curtains, cafe curtains, shirred curtains—any of these, in a carefully chosen fabric can help you bring out the best in your Cape Cod house. But stay away from elaborate swags and cornices; for extra touches turn to ruffles, tie-backs or valances that are in keeping with the curtains and draperies you select.

There's a Kirsch rod, new as tomorrow, to help you accomplish any traditional window treatment.

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THE



All the feeling of Early America is inherent in this charming room. Note that even though draperies are the modern ceiling to floor draw style, the pattern of the fabric expresses the period perfectly.



Center of interest in this room is the window, of course, where bright gingham curtains are gaily tied back and a matching lampshade helps carry the traditional air.



There's nothing more delightful than a Cape Cod bay window. Cotton print draperies and matching cushions accent the provincial decorating theme.



Perfect setting for clam chowder! Period furniture in scale with the size of the room, provincial design in the wallpaper, and accent note in cafe curtains combined with draw draperies set the scene.



An Early American touch in the eating area of a modern American kitchen is provided by bright plaid tie-back curtains and a matching tablecloth.



Two tiny windows become very important when they are incorporated into one decorating element. Note how the wide, wide valance turns the trick.



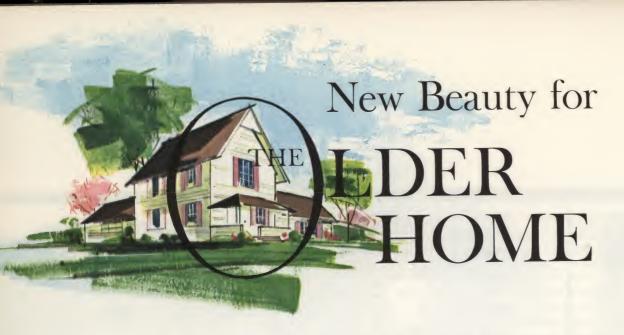
A wide window in a late model Cape Cod house combines cafe curtains (sheer cotton), draw draperies and matching valance (provincial print). Tie-backs could be put on at will to change the effect.



Oh-so-full criss-cross curtains and matching ruffled valance make a frivolous bedroom ensemble to go with popular colonial style maple furnishings.



Two tiers of sheer curtains are shirred on the rod in this Early American bedroom. Draperies in provincial print are draw style and the matching valance is shirred.



If you're the gal who's bidin' her time in an older house, or the longer-married homemaker whose new home as a bride has suddenly begun to seem a bit outdated, take heart. For you can bring new, fresh beauty into your home in many ways.

Scattered everywhere are millions of these houses, built earlier in the century and bearing traces of several different architectural styles, with no single one predominating. Many of them are sturdy and quite attractive, and most have some definite advantages over today's more compact houses. Rooms tend to be larger and airy with ample storage closets, and windows are usually plentiful although they may not be ideal in shape or location.

Your typically American house offers unlimited opportunities for imaginative decoration, because you don't have to follow any particular period fashion. Often your very biggest opportunity is at the windows, where nearly any style of curtains and draperies is proper so long as it is in keeping with other furnishings.

Carefully-chosen traverse draperies with curtains under them go well with any type of furnishings. And they offer the means of correcting such common older-house defects as windows that are too tall and narrow, too small, or oddly shaped. (See Part 2 for helpful particulars.)

You can camouflage other architectural defects with draperies, too. Applying the fact that light colors seem to recede, while dark and bright ones appear to come forward, you can make a long, narrow room look better proportioned by draping one entire end wall in a fabric that is darker or brighter in color than the other walls. This beautiful effect makes a dramatic difference in the room.





Tailored draperies harmonize with the cleancut lines of modern furniture. The treatment given the space between two windows—long desk and decorative map—ties them together and creates a feeling of unity.



To ensure the maximum amount of daylight in a shadowy room and make the windows seem wider, draperies here are extended well beyond the windows.



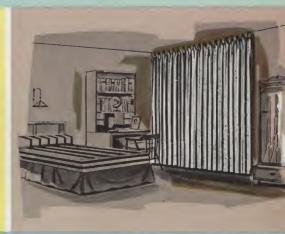
Criss-cross curtains have a crisp, fresh look very suitable for a bedroom in an older house. *Two pairs* of ruffled curtains are used, with each pair used as *one* curtain, for this generous, all-around ruffled look.



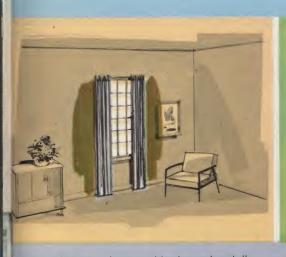
This "modernized" bedroom features fresh, floral chintz traverse draperies topped with very sheer, white over-curtains tied back for today's elegant look.



When the winter winds start to blow, you may substitute heavier overdraperies in a solid color matched from one of the colors in the print, to create a feeling of warmth—and a change of scenery, too.



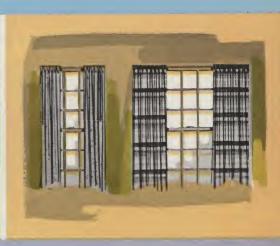
To give a bedroom a decidedly masculine tone, stress vertical lines, strong colors and rough texture. These bright, striped traverse draperies in a coarse weave are ideally suited for this purpose.



If the living room in your older home has tall, narrow windows like this, there are ways to disguise them and make them appear to be more pleasingly proportioned.



Select a sunny color, preferably in a light tone which blends with your furnishings. If you choose a patterned fabric, get one that pulls your eyes across, not up and down.



To make the long, narrow window look shorter and wider and let in as much light as possible, extend draperies out past the window on both sides. See the difference?

A room that's too big for coziness will take on a warm, intimate feeling when curtains and draperies are of deep or bright tones. And here is the place for the big, massive patterns so often mis-

placed in smaller rooms.

Ceiling too high? Paint it a darker shade of the wall color. Ceilings will seem lower, too, if you enlarge the apparent size of your windows. Extend curtains and draperies both above and beyond the casing to good proportions, with a valance or cornice wide and deep enough to hide the entire casing. Use big, over-all patterns—never vertical designs or stripes with high ceilings!

Radiators under windows are common to older homes. By all means, keep the radiators looking neat, clean and as unobtrusive as possible, even if it means investing in some good-looking radiator covers. New heat resistant fabrics are good choices for draperies when some must hang near radiators. For detailed suggestions, see page 90.

Beauty in the home truly begins at the windows—and there is

no spot like an older house to prove it.







Short draperies can make a long window look shorter also. Let the draperies reach to the sill or the apron. A valance also helps shorten the window's appearance.

Left is the treatment we started with; and on the right, the same window, transformed by new fabric in a light color with horizontal pattern, short draperies extended beyond window on both sides, and a valance.

For small high windows you can use regular two-way draw draperies. Keep draperies as wide as the furniture under them by extending them beyond the casing as necessary.







When a dining room in an older home has just one window, and not a very large one, your problem is to get as much daylight as possible into the room and to make the window seem more important.

Again, extend draperies beyond the window to make it appear wider; have them floorlength to make the window seem longer. Cafe curtains underneath give daytime privacy.

Sometimes a dormer window presents a problem in a bedroom of an older house. Curtains hung from swinging extension rods are one perfect solution.



Every home needs a quiet retreat—a cozy room tucked away from family hubbub for reading, writing, homework, or pursuit of a favorite hobby. Trouble is, in most new compact houses, there just isn't space for such a room.

But with the true story-and-a-half house—well, there is that spacious half-story attic under the roof, just waiting for you to exercise your skill by turning it into one or two extra "quiet" rooms which can also serve as guest rooms on occasion.

This refurbishing project can be a family hobby—with everyone participating during leisure hours and on week-ends. Even though the work doesn't go as fast as you would like, or there are only a few dollars to spend on it each month—what's the hurry? Take your time at applying the wallboard and painting the floors—the extra rooms are well worth waiting for.

You can furnish your new "addition" inexpensively—with discarded pieces of furniture painted to match the walls, a bargain lamp, an old chair carefully slip-covered in a bright new fabric.

Be sure you include everything needed for solitary relaxation. Book shelves, a desk, a comfortable chair with a good reading light and any other furnishings needed for family members' hobbies; a basic workbench, for example.

If windows are few and small, treat them to let in all the light and air possible. You may want to get contractors' estimates on adding a dormer or two. Keep room colors sunny and add electric outlets to provide

for plenty of artificial lighting.

For window decorating on the main floor of your house, follow pertinent suggestions from other pages in this part of the "Kirsch Guide."

and-a-half HOUSE

An enchanting tree-top view was introduced into this remodeled upper half-story by enlarging the window. Simple draw draperies open full window width to let the outside scene set the mood.



An extra bedroom under the roof serves as a guest room or as a permanent bedroom or dormitory for an expanding family. Tiered cafe curtains are functional for the small dormer windows.



You can turn an unused half-story into a family recreation room with a minimum of expense. Polish up old pieces to furnish the room; let inexpensive cotton draperies in a bold pattern and color add the new note.



the OLONIAL HOUSE

As soon as fortune began to smile on the early New England colonists, there arose a demand for houses more elaborate than the earlier Cape Cod cottages, and the first Colonial Georgian architecture came into being. In America the chief building material was wood, and columns, cornices and balustrades became slender and graceful instead of heavy and monumental. Doors and windows were framed in delicate moldings which gave them a charm that has lived to this day.

Because of their convenient floor plans arranged around a large central hall with a graceful staircase leading to the sleeping floor above, their symmetrical exterior appearance with beautifully arranged windows and doors, and their practical comfort, the principal types of American Georgian architecture have flourished with little fundamental change—moving westward through the years.

Elegance is the rule in decorating any Colonial

house, and today fashion is working with you; elegance is the one big word in interior styling these days. Pick up any current homemaker magazine and you will find dozens of ideas just perfect for your home—handsome cornices, valances, swags, tie-back effects, and lavish fabrics in rich, luxurious colorings.

If yours is an older traditional home and its rooms seem a bit too large and formal for today's more intimate way of life, you can do much to offset this by staying away from very pale color tones in large areas such as walls, carpets and draperies. And arrange furniture for a cozy effect; pull it in toward the middle of the room (not flat against walls) and arrange chairs and sofas in conversational groupings.

If you have an overwhelming desire to introduce some of the very latest contemporary furniture and fabrics into your home, it is best to do so with the help of a qualified decorator, for an attractive blending of contemporary furnishings into a house of such definite tradition is difficult to accomplish.

Don't be discouraged by the exponents of modern architectural forms who decry the Colonial house. Georgian architecture was developed over several hundred years by some of the world's greatest architects including England's famed Christopher Wren. It was as fashionable a hundred years ago as it is today and will continue to be in the future; it represents a beautiful, comfortable tradition.



- **3.** Elegant swags can set the decorating tone in a traditional living room. Use them over sheer, silky curtains like these or rich, heavy fabrics.
- **4.** Turn to gingham to lend an informal note to a traditional room. Here matching fabric and wallpaper are combined to perfection.
- **5.** Draw draperies over criss-cross curtains? But certainly—when you want a window-widening effect as well as the charm of bouffant ruffles.
- **6.** A nice way to show off your favorite antique to perfection! Bench and picture grouping unites the two beautifully draped windows.
- **7.** Matching wallpaper and drapery fabric help offset the effect of too many doors and windows in a room. Pick yours with a colonial flair.
- **8.** A bright print, cleverly used, can often add a note of warmth to a room which seems a bit too formal. Slipcover, valance and tie-backs match!























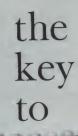




- 1. Wall-to-wall draperies in a two-color combination give a dramatic touch to this modern apartment. Here is a good place to use a ceiling-mounted treatment.
- 2. These draperies covering most of one wall furnish a luxurious background for furniture; their light color, blending with the wall, lends a spacious look.
- 3. When your living room windows face the wall of a nearby building, you will probably want to keep your draperies closed most of the time. Use carefully placed lamps to provide light where you need it.
- **4.** At times, even though the view outside your window is not ideal, you may want to let in daylight. Sheer curtains under draw draperies will help obscure the view when draperies are open.

- **5.** Brightly-printed draperies can be an accent point in your apartment. Choose a print that's in scale with the room size and its furnishings. Better not use a large, bold design in a small room.
- **6.** Neat, tailored draperies, made of striped black and white ticking, match the couch slip cover—a good example of striking effect achieved with little expense.
- 7. This well-balanced room features semisheer draperies in an overall leaf print; the small-scale sofa is in nubby-textured fabric, and the low chair is in the room's bright accent color.
- 8. Let its curtains be the "frosting" on your apartment-size kitchen. This window has a bright circus effect with a scalloped felt valance and chintz cafe curtains in harlequin print.

- 9. Frills and romantic finery in an apartment? Of course, if they fit your furnishings and your fancy. These criss-cross curtains soften the lines of an otherwise plain bedroom and give it a feminine feeling.
- 10. Three tiers of lace curtains at this bedroom window are frivolous-looking yet easy to care for. Use Kirsch single curtain rods for the two lower tiers and a double curtain rod for the top tier and valance.
- 11. Full, gathered inner curtains of sheer cotton give this bedroom a lovely, airy look when the outer draperies are open and sunlight filters through. (Add drapery tiebacks for today's touch of fashion.)
- 12. For elegance by day, with privacy at night, veil the window in multi-colored traverse draperies. Draperies and undercurtains are both hung on one Kirsch combination traverse-and-plain-rod set.





beautiful rooms

Room by room, you can make your home very personally yours and your family's. You can inject into it the glowing warmth which is a vital part of beauty. Little effort is required; you merely *allow* your home to express your family preferences, needs and way of life.

A second part of home beauty might be called organization. Organization is acquired by applying the few basic rules of good decorating to your personal tastes. This simple

process is called coordination.

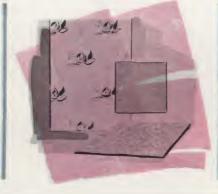
Color is the great coordinator. It is an inescapable part of everything in your home. It inevitably reflects your taste. And you, in turn, react to it. A good old adage makes a simple basic rule for the use of color in your home: "Something dark, something light, something dull and something bright." Ah, but there's more, much more—as you'll see when you read the pages devoted to color and its uses later in the book.

Pattern, too, is important. And once again there is a good basic rule of thumb: "Stick to three designs per room—one plain, one bold and one subdued." Never, but never, use two big, bold patterns in one room: they'll battle forever and neither will win.

Texture plays its part in coordinating. You can't go wrong with: "Something rough, something smooth, something in-between." Brick, nubby rugs and homespun fabrics are rough. Polished furniture, leather, glass, satin are smooth. Most drapery and upholstery fabrics, book-bindings, and pottery are in-between.

Arrangement, properly carried out in furnishings and accessories, helps coordinate a room. Proper formal balance is achieved when pairs are equally spaced on either side of a central object: sofa flanked by a pair of end tables, twin chairs opposite each other before a fireplace, one large picture with a small one on either side. Rule: "Never use more than two pairs to a room." Informal balance occurs when two or more small dissimilar objects are used to balance one large one; for instance, two chairs and a lamp opposite a sofa. Rule: Use at least two small objects to balance a larger one. Formal balance is usually best in traditional









olor is the principal key to coordinaon in your home. "Something dark, omething light, something dull and omething bright" in every room will flect your good taste. The importance of pattern can't be overlooked—a print, a plain and a subdued pattern give you the best and easiest plan for coordinating design in a room.

One way to use textures effectively in a room is with roughness in a homespun drapery fabric, smoothness in a polished wood and in-between texture in an upholstery fabric.

Formal balance is obtained here by centering a bench between two windows. With this arrangement, a picture grouping is often helpful in achieving the formal feeling.



rooms and informal balance in others.

Scale refers to the size relationship between the room, furnishings and accessories and patterns. Rule: "Use small furnishings, accessories and patterns in small rooms, big ones in big rooms."

A central point of interest in the room makes coordinating easier. It might be a fine window, a handsome fireplace, a prized art object or a wall of drapery. Rule: Be sure you have one focal point in every room.

Don't be discouraged if your rooms now violate some or all of these basic rules. Make yourself a plan. Then each time you paint, each time you buy something new, be sure it fits into your plan.

Perhaps a different furniture arrangement is indicated. This you can do immediately.

In working toward your goal, often fresh, new window treatments can correct more flaws than anything else you might do. At your windows you can add any color—dark, light, bright or subdued—that is missing from the

room. You can get rid of a pattern that makes one too many, or add one that's needed. You can supply a called-for texture or create a center of interest—simply with a new fabric at your windows.

If you should decide to start at the windows, as most decorators do, to bring coordination into your rooms, shop for fabric samples. Bring them home, check colors and design with your furnishings, carpets, walls and accessories.

All these basic rules of decorating outlined above are mechanical, in a sense. They can bring true beauty into your home only when you begin with your family's interest at heart. Let every room tell its own story: "This is 12-year-old Mary's room; she loves books and music and movie stars." "This is the living room of an outdoor family; here are the trophies, the paintings, the colors to prove it."

As each of your rooms begins to reflect family personality and your use of simple decorating principles, you will find its beauty and your comfort and happiness increasing each day in proportion!









Another way to create formal balance in a room is by placing a pair of matching chairs on either side of a coffee table and center the group directly in front of a picture window.

In this Early American room a deacon's bench, table and lamp offset the antique chest to show informal balance. Always use at least two small objects to balance a larger one. Be sure to keep furnishings and accessories as well as print in upholstery and drapery fabrics in correct scale—big ones together or small ones together. Every room needs a feature point. A lovely angled bay makes a perfect center of interest, but the featured spot could also be a fireplace, a prized art object or a wall of drapery.



shall consult standing of people. As a specialist in the selecting and combining of colors, furnishings and accessories, a good decorator can help you make the most of your home-in comfort, appearance and convenience-for yourself, your family, and the kind of guests you are likely to have. A good decorator interprets your tastes and requirements, never imposes his or her own. Perhaps that is why so many women with excellent taste use decorators; they want the professional's broad knowledge of sources, and skill in combining all sorts of materials.

Perhaps you are thinking, "I can't afford a decorator." To the contrary, decorators' services are usually adaptable to most budgets, and if you are frank as to means and needs, "your" decorator can help you end up with good value from the total expenditure. In the first place, decorators rarely start from scratch in redecorating a room. They will use some of the things you have—and see to the refinishing of a chest or table, or to the recovering of an upholstered piece to fit the new scheme. They will help you find the best buys; will even set up a long-range buying program starting with only basic pieces. (Such a program, incidentally, is a good one for you to use if you do-ityourself. Acquire good pieces even if it does take longer-you'll be better satisfied in the long run.) Most decorators are knowledgeable, ingenious and resourceful; an imaginative one can give your home a made-to-order look on a ready-made budget.

There are three basic ways to obtain decorating service. The first—the so-called "Home Planning Center"-can be found in many department stores, including the chains. Here a trained director will help you decorate as a "no charge" service of the store.

The second way-the Decorating Department-is found in many large stores, both furniture and department. Here the decorator acts as an advisory creative salesperson, frequently special-ordering items not carried in stock, and even advising you on decorating materials and details beyond the scope of the store's activities. There's usually no charge for this type of decorating service because the decorator is paid by the store.

The last, independent decorators, frequently have their own shops or studios with good available sources for furniture, rugs, wallpaper, fabrics and other furnishings. They may also stock some of these things.

The independent decorator may get his compensation in any of several ways: He may buy at a discount and resell to you at list price; he may charge a percentage fee or mark-up on antiques, custom-made pieces, or other items on which he does not get a discount; or, he may charge a straight fee per hour or per room for consultation, plus "extras" for sketches or shopping done for you.

After seeing your house and present furnishings, and becoming acquainted with your family's characteristics, the good decorator will discuss your needs and requirements, and plan with you. He or she then assembles a general scheme, and from this you begin making specific choices. If you aren't sure what you want, that's just where you may want to rely on the skill, experience and good taste of the professional. He knows how to handle even the small details that add a finished touch to a room.

Before engaging an interior decorator, be sure to see either samples or pictures which will give you an idea of the type and quality of his work. Don't hesitate to ask about charges. Seek advice first, then consult your budget to see how far you can afford to go now. Decorating is frequently done in installments over several seasons or even over several years. If you are interested in having exclusive wallpapers, fabrics or furniture, say so. If you are more interested in beauty and durability, at modest cost, let that fact be known. In other words, be frank. And then, as your plan is worked out, be decisive—and be specific in your approvals. Keep notes to avoid misunderstandings-and having once made up your mind, don't change it after the orders are placed; such changes are almost sure to mean additional expense for you.

Certainly, many homemakers can benefit from the advice and service of a qualified specialist. If you feel that you want the help of an interior decorator, by all means seek it. COLOR is in everything we see. It influences us intimately, personally, inevitably—and far more deeply than we may realize. Within the home, color is the slave that becomes the master; we start by putting it to work for us and from then on we—and all who come into its influence—are affected by it. Since color is such a powerful setter-of-moods, we want to select very carefully while it is in the "slave" stage, so that as "master" it will do our bidding.

Throughout this book are many references to the use of color. Each of these should be helpful in its own way, but here in this section we will deal with color itself. Like any other tool or power, the more you know about color, the more effectively you can use it. Here are several ideas about color, different but not contradictory; use any that appeal to you. (A wealth of material about color is

OLOR

SETTER ·OF· MOODS

available at your library, beautiful booklets on color are offered by paint manufacturers in their advertising, and illustrated articles of current interest on color appear frequently in the popular "homemaker" magazines. You can easily delve more deeply into the subject, if you wish.) A 9-piece Color Kit—providing hundreds of actual combinations based on specific or favorite colors—is available from Kirsch Co., Sturgis, Michigan. Price 25¢.

The colors we favor in clothes, to express our personality or perhaps a temporary emotional need, will not necessarily be the colors we want to predominate in the home, where the tastes and needs of the whole family are to be considered. In addition to suiting you, personally, the colors you use in decorating should set the moods you and your family need in the several areas of the home.

No one can help you decide what feeling or mood you want in your living room, recreation room, bedroom or kitchen. But we can help you recognize which colors have a stimulating effect, which have a soothing and relaxing effect, and so on. And we can help you achieve harmonious combinations built around a predominating color, once you have chosen it, or combinations which include a color which you must use.

The rainbow enables us to break light down into its 12 colorparts. Then the relationships between the colors can be clearly seen. Colors are seldom used in their pure or "clear" hues. Usually a color is lightened with white to make a *tint*, darkened with black to produce a *shade*, or "grayed" with another color to make a *tone*.

But no matter how it is treated, every color retains its membership in one of the 12 "rainbow" color families. Recognizing the family to which any color belongs is the first step toward combining it successfully with others. Below is a chart which names the 12 families (as shown on the following page) and lists just a few of the hundreds of family members by names which you will recognize.

| RED FAMILY | 2 RED- ORANGE FAMILY | 3 ORANGE FAMILY | YELLOW- ORANGE FAMILY | 5 YELLOW FAMILY | YELLOW- GREEN FAMILY | 7 GREEN FAMILY | 8 BLUE- GREEN FAMILY | 9 BLUE FAMILY | BLUE- PURPLE FAMILY | 11 PURPLE FAMILY | 12 RED- PURPLE FAMILY |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SHELL | DUSTY PINK | IVORY | CREAM | PRIMROSE | APPLE GREEN | GAS LITE | HORIZON BLUE | SKY BLUE | LILAC | WISTERIA | ASTER, |
| ROSE | FLAMINGO | PEACH | BANANA | BUFF | PEA GREEN | NILE GREEN | JADE | WEDGWOOD | IRIS | ORCHID | CLEMATIS |
| CHERRY | CORAL ROSE | CORAL | JONQUIL | LEMON | CHARTREUSE | SPRUCE GREEN | PEACOCK | DELFT BLUE | VIOLET | SCOTCH THISTLE | OLD |
| LIP- STICK | CHINESE | ORANGE | GOLDEN- ROD | CANARY | LETTUCE | KELLY | EMERALD | ROYAL BLUE | GRAPE | LAVENDER | CROCUS |
| RASP- BERRY | TERRA COTTA | SAND | CORN | STRAW | MINT GREEN | IVY | TURQUOISE | FRENCH BLUE | MAUVE | PANSY | MULBERRY |
| BUR- GUNDY | COPPER | COCOA | OLD GOLD | CITRON | OLIVE GREEN | FOREST GREEN | SEA GREEN | LARKSPUR | PLUM | AMETHYST | WINE |
| DEEP MAROON | DEEP | CHESTNUT | TAUPE | KHAKI | PALM GREEN | BOTTLE GREEN | MELON GREEN | MIDNITE BLUE | NAVY | RAISIN | EGG PLANT |







Here we use any two or three colors next to each other on the color wheel. This is the *close harmony* of color and, like close harmony in music, can yield beautiful results. But—and again like music—the combining must be carefully done. The right values must be used, and in the right amounts. General color suggestions will help in determining the "right" values and amounts (usually on the conservative side) and there are some specific suggestions on page 52.



All around the wheel—the colors directly opposite each other get along famously. Often these conventional combinations are rich, elegant, satisfying; they are safe, reliable, and particularly suitable for traditional furnishings.



An almost infinite variety of pleasing color schemes can be created by using the colors which *adjoin* the true complementary, on one end or the other. In this example, instead of using yellow's true complementary, violet, note that red-violet and blue-violet have been used.



Putting a simple triangle on the wheel—touching three equi-distant colors—reveals twelve beautiful "conventional" color schemes, one after another. (As in all other actual use of color, light tints, dark shades, and muted tones are used.)

let the artists help you combine colors you love

Artists, designers, fabric creators all borrow color schemes freely from each other. So can you—and it's easy! Thousands of women who know little about the theory of color have been able to color-style their homes most beautifully simply by "following" a picture they saw and liked. Here is the simple principle.

It matters not where you see or obtain the picture, or even the type or subject matter of the illustration. If it contains the over-all color effect you want—and includes, importantly, some specific color that you want to use or must use—let this picture be your guide. The artist or photographic art director who created the picture combined his colors in a way that pleases you—so why not "take his picture apart" and put the colors together again in your own home?

With just a little attention, care and discretion, you can combine *your* colors—in walls, draperies, floor coverings and furniture—very much as the artist combined them in his picture.

The example shown here takes the colors from a water-color by Mr. Irwin C. Bowman, Art Director of Kirsch Co. and uses them in a room. The room was color-styled by "lifting" his colors from the painting, as shown below it, and then combining them again—in about the same values and proportions in the room. This is an example of a complementary color scheme.









Color is wonderful. Not only is it the first thing you notice about a room but—as mentioned on page 49—color sets the mood or feeling that inevitably influences those who spend time in the room. A great deal has been learned about the moods produced by various colors. We can only skim the surface here, but the generalities can help you decide what would be "nice to come home to." For you and your family.

The yellows, reds and oranges—"warm" colors—are in general exciting and stimulating. Blues, violets, and most greens are "cool", and thus more restful and relaxing. The natural colors of earth, sky, plants and water—if not used in too-bright tones—are easiest of all to live with. So ask yourself what mood you want to create, and be guided accordingly. Bear in mind that the stresses and strains of modern business, and widespread concern about the state of the world, are making most of us more reflective. Perhaps you would prefer a quiet rather than a stimulating mood, in rooms where you will spend the most time. It's all up to you.

After you have selected the basic color scheme, and start to look at fabric samples and paint "chips" you will find your color sense quickening, for you will relate the things you are seeing to each other, and to some of the color-help you have received from these pages and from other printed material. (Don't forget to take these

guides shopping with you!)

Today, the whole wide wonderful world of color offers many more opportunities to go right than wrong. In the first place, several manufacturers are producing color-harmonized lines, including "teams" of plain and patterned fabrics, and "go-together" combinations of fabrics and wallpapers. Then too, most manufacturers of home furnishings and decorating materials—the paint companies for example—have made great progress in broadening their offerings in colors that get along well together.

But the biggest change of all—the most fascinating "freedom" about using color today—is that color combinations which were considered artistically "impossible" only a few years ago are now being used with truly stunning effect, and in some very conservative locations.

The "new" combinations are the ones made from related colors—called "analogous" on page 50—those next to each other on the color wheel: blue with blue-violet and blue-green; red with red-orange and red-violet; yellow with yellow-orange and yellow-green, and so on.

But there is a secret: it is how these colors—once thought to be enemies—are used together. They must be used in the right amounts and the right values: small areas of the relatively bright or strong values, larger areas in light tints, grayed or muted colors. As a practical working "recipe" or formula, try making your basic color the *middle* one of three. It can be used a little more boldly than the other two—in your draperies, for example. *One* of the other colors can be used in a light tint on the wall; the third color—muted or grayed—puts in its appearance in the floor covering or upholstery. Purer

"and this above all,

to thine own self

be true"



tones of all three colors can be used in vases, pillows and other color-accent notes.

Some general notes about color: On large areas, the actual color effect will seem stronger than you would think in looking at a fabric swatch or paint chip. White, black, gold and silver—as colors—go with practically everything; large areas of off-white are very useful in decorating. Grays fit most color schemes. However, each usually has a "cast", or hue, of one of the 12 families, and should be so treated. Even in analogous color schemes, any color can usually be successfully muted by the addition of its complementary color. Tints and shades of only one color family can be combined—and beautifully—in a "monochromatic" color scheme.

If you "pick what you like"—while keeping the simple principles of color harmony in mind—you'll surely create a setting that will reflect your hopes, your dreams—and your love.







artistry born of the very first loom have been interwoven with progress through the ages to bring you today's multitude of fabrics.

From the fiber comes the yarn, from the yarn the

goods.

Today, fibers may be natural such as cotton, silk, linen, wool. Or they may be synthetic (manmade) such as rayon, acetate, nylon, polyester, glass. Often two or more fibers-cotton and silk, for example—are blended in a fabric to bring you the best qualities of each.

Fibers are spun into yarn or thread; yarn is woven into cloth. The weave contributes to the feel or "hand" of the goods, and to its strength, durability and stretchability. Weave actually determines the appearance of the material and its texture, and gives the fabric its name: marquisette, organdy, broadcloth, sailcloth, satin, brocade, matelassé and damask, to name just a few of the hundreds.

Solution-dyed yarns are colored as they are manufactured, to make the color a part of the actual fiber so it will resist running and fading. Acetate

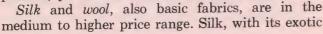
and rayon are most often solution-dyed.

And today many new finishes have been developed to make fabrics shrink-resistant, wrinkleresistant, water-repellent, and to reduce the need

for ironing.

Look what's happened to cotton, for instance! No fabric has more faces. You can buy it in many different weaves and textures, and in blends with silk, linen, rayon, nylon and other synthetics. With the addition of stain-resistant, crease-resistant and drip-dry finishes, cotton is more attractive than ever today, both beauty-wise and value-wise. It can be luxurious enough for the finest mansion, simple enough for the tiniest cottage.

Linen is another old standby. It is somewhat expensive, yet cleans beautifully and retains colors.





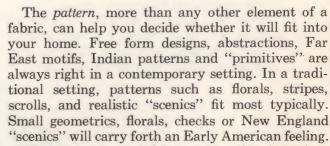
oriental history, is exquisite as a drapery fabric for it drapes beautifully and looks luxurious. It is most practical in blends with synthetics which give it new strength and durability and do not affect its natural beauty. And no drapery fabric is more handsome than a sheer woolen casement; wool gives long wear, cleans well.

Synthetics, developed during recent decades, have become extremely popular as decorator fabrics. Rayon was the first and, when combined with other fibers, now forms the backbone of many beautiful drapery materials. Acetate, acrylic, nylon, polyester and glass fiber are other synthetics used increasingly in the manufacture of drapery fabrics. Most synthetics are quick-drying, highly wrinkleresistant, fade-resistant and very durable. And most of them drape beautifully.

These thousands of power-loomed fabrics surpass in beauty all but the finest hand-made goods of past generations. And we need never, never skimp on fabric yardage—no matter how limited our funds -for the wise homemaker can create beautiful effects from ample yardage of such inexpensive materials as burlap, sheeting or striped ticking, and win admiration for her originality.

And now, from out of this wealth of available fabrics you must pick those you want for your very own. By this time (if you have read this book), you will have decided on the style of your draperies, you will have limited your color range, and you will have in mind an approximate idea of the type of fabric you want. Let's look at some of the possibilities.





Plain, unpatterned fabrics often fit nicely into any decorating style. Yet, such fabrics as translucent silks and synthetics, wool and cotton casements, and various unusual weaves (sometimes



threaded with metallic or bamboo fibers) most often convey the contemporary feeling. "Rich" fabrics such as velvets, heavy silks, brocades and satin finishes are most flattering to the traditional home, while homespuns and many of the time-honored cotton weaves are best for Early American.

Certain colors and color combinations also imply particular periods. The new close-harmony or "analogous" color schemes are a product of contemporary thinking; certain muted tones and shadings of many of the twelve key colors are also modern expressions. Deep reds, blues, purples and greens bear natural association with the rich traditional periods. Tones of gold, green, orange and brown, and of

pure blue, are typically Early American.

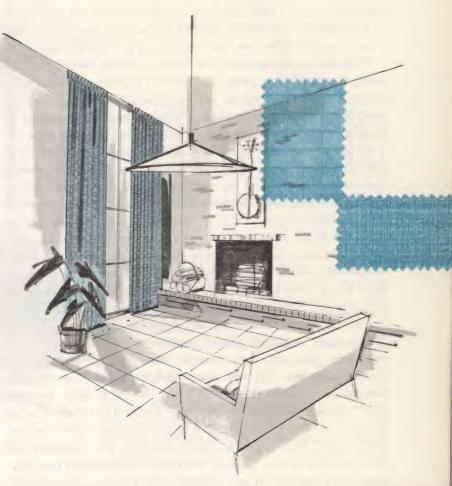
Coordinated teams of fabric and wallpaper offer an easy way to create an illusion of more space in a small room or, directly opposite, to make a too-big room seem cozier. Be sure to select your pattern with the style of the room, its size and its windows in mind. Larger rooms and windows will take larger-scale designs, and dark or bright colors. But you would defeat your purpose if you chose a large-scale print for a smaller room; to create an illusion of spaciousness, use small, airy patterns and pastel or neutral colors. Coordinated fabric and wallpaper can help overcome the cut-up feeling in a room with too many windows and doors. These "teams" can help minimize irregular ceiling lines and other architectural defects, as well.

The new drapery and upholstery fabric team-mates are a boon to the homemaker who needs to create a feeling of unity in a home with several different furniture styles. Some are matched. Others are in contrasting patterns and weaves made expressly to go with each other; a typical example—drapery fabric in varicolored print, and upholstery fabric in stripes of colors picked up from the drapery print.

Another of the specially "made-to-go-with-eachother" teams is that of a print with its own harmonizing heavy-woven mate in a solid color. Such teams make charming window ensembles such as interesting patterned curtains under heavier solid

color over-draperies.

You can achieve distinctive room styling, too, by using various textures and weaves of the *same color* in one room. Such a wide range in weaves exists today, that a treatment using one over-all color can be quite charming in effect and not at all monotonous.



Finally, as you shop remember that bold patterns and bright colors will always draw attention to your windows. On the other hand, subdued prints and solid colors that match your walls will inevitably make the windows fade unnoticed into the room's background. Either effect is perfectly proper, but be aware of this factor before you make your final fabric selections.

Take your time in shopping. Hold fabrics you like to the light; see how they look with the sun shining through. If they are to be lined, hold them up with a piece of lining fabric to see how this affects the patterns and colors. Take home swatches to com-

pare with your furnishings.







The IVING ROOM your most gracious touch

Yours can be the living room that other homemakers envy—the one with such an air of gracious charm and relaxing comfort that friends who call to "just stay a minute" will hate to leave.

It matters not whether it is mansion or cottage size, old or new, so long as you pick for it colors and styles that you and your family like. You can, and still stay within the bounds of good decor. For within every style and color range flattering to your home and its room settings are some that you will especially enjoy. These are the ones that will inevitably reflect



Any decor can be inviting to guests only when done with feeling and tender care. Two modern sofas in front of a picture window make a pleasant conversation grouping.



Adequate passage aisles are essential when you have guests. The floor in front of these double windows is a perfect spot for bright cushions or extra chairs.



Here's a cozy spot the whole family will vie for—a comfortable nook that's just right for "curling up" with a good book on a wintry evening.



Ample light is all important in your living room. Here traverse draperies form a pleasing background for a table lamp at each end of the sofa.

your personality, and at the same time, lend a most pleasant atmosphere to your rooms.

Your living room should accommodate different groups of people with equal grace. First consideration is your own family. Be sure you've included all the furnishings and accessories necessary for every member of your family to enjoy happy hours here.

Another essential is a conversation corner, where you can have a cozy chat with one or two special friends who drop in unexpectedly. Two or three chairs drawn close together and a coffee table answer this requirement.

And for larger groups have in mind several small chairs which can be brought in from other rooms for extra seating; and know ahead of time where you will put them for a considerate arrangement. On really informal occasions—and when some of your guests are young or young-at-heart—a supply of brightly colored floor cushions can serve to enlarge your seating capacity, substantially.

Be sure there are passage aisles through your living room at all times. Adequate lighting is another essential. Handy tables, plenty of ash trays, a bowl of cigarettes—these are some of the considerate details that cost little yet show

your thoughtfulness as a hostess.

If you can afford to change only one thing about your living room, take a good look at the windows. For new curtains and draperies offer the least expensive means to the biggest improvement. Choose a fashion change that will flatter your windows—and be correct in your home. Then from your choice of suitable "room unifying" fabric colors and designs, pick the one you like. You'll be amazed at the difference.



For a touch of elegance in a living room, full white draperies are held back by wooden knobs to display pastel linings that match the wall. Sheer curtains complete the picture.



It's important to include a pleasant conversation corner in your living room. Here, semi-sheer traverse draperies filter the sunlight to bathe the room in a pleasant glow.



Old or new, choose a decor that suits you and your family. Tiers of cafes in a quaint provincial print and matching wallpaper on the dado make this an inviting living room corner.



Center a conversational sofa and chair arrangement in front of a viewrevealing glass wall. Floor length traverse draperies close for nighttime privacy.

Your living room is the part of your home most often seen by your friends, and strangers, too. It leaves a lasting impression of the kind of people you are. Only by putting into it something special of yourself, some extra thought for the comfort of your family and guests, can you give it a truly gracious air and its own stamp of beauty.



Combining an attractive print at the window and on the ceiling is an original way to create beauty in the dining room. Sheer curtains furnish desired privacy for daytime meals.



A gay print covers the walls in this dining area. Shortie traverse draperies and cafe curtains pick up the colors from the wallpaper. Bright place mats add another cheery note.

the Jining room

for food, family, friends

Often in the whirlwind scurry of activity in which we Americans live, mealtimes are the only times the whole family can be together. Many an owner of a beautiful new home has discovered—alas, too late—that an adequate dining area is important. Dining rooms, as such, are coming back!

But it doesn't matter greatly whether yours is a dining room or an area of the kitchen or living room, so long as you make it seem uncrowded and comfortable.

A table of adequate size is imperative, as are comfortable chairs with backs. Storage space for table needs should be near at hand. And colors should be quiet, relaxing ones—light if you need to expand the apparent size, blending well with the rest of the room if it's a dining area. And you'll need at least one window, beautifully treated.

Remember that table settings are part of the picture. Keep them in key with the room setting, at least color-wise. Extra loving touches such as a tiny bowl of freshly-picked flowers from your garden can add a happy note.

The final seasoning for any meal is always the beauty of the surroundings in which you serve it.



A more formal dining room takes draperies in a subdued plaid with white cafes for privacy. An interesting centerpiece will make a congenial conversation starter.



When you decorate a bedroom, let your first consideration be for the comfort and needs of the person who will be using it. The room should provide all the necessities to make its occupant feel relaxed and at ease.

Just as each person is different, so are the decorating requirements in each bedroom. You, as a busy homemaker, will find that a comfortable chair in your room will make a welcome spot to spend a few quiet moments away from your work. A small desk or cabinet for his books will please the man of the house.

When the master bedroom is small, pale colors will give the room a more spacious look. And the window treatments you choose should be simply styled, blending with the wall color. In a small room, too, you will want to provide as much drawer space as possible to store clothing and accessories, so the room will appear uncluttered. A bed with a headboard containing shelves and drawers is a good space saver, because it eliminates the need for nightstands.

If the master bedroom is large, include a few frills to please your feminine fancy, but be sure to provide your husband with plenty of drawer space he can call his own and a comfortable chair. When space permits, a good addition is a lounge-type chair or small sofa for a few moments of rest during the day without disturbing the bed. Voluminous curtains and draperies will do more for your bedroom than any other item of decoration. Be sure, however, that your window treatments are functional as well as beautiful.

allowing for adequate ventilation, privacy and light control.

When decorating a child's bedroom, choose a color he or she particularly likes. Usually, the more bright color you can provide, the happier the child will be. Remember, however, that stimulating colors are not conducive to daytime naps. Furnishings should be sturdy, and, above all, there should be lots of drawers and shelves for toys, books and personal treasures. Closets should have hooks and coat hangers the child can reach. Try to leave a large portion of the floor space free of furniture to make room for play. Draperies that are easy to launder and easy for the child to open and close are a wise selection.

A teen-age girl usually will want a bedroom that is feminine in decor. And she will want a hand in the decorating. Again, plenty of drawer space is a must. With the abundance of easy-care synthetic fabrics today, you can furnish the room with plenty of frills, and still keep it practical. Be sure that a desk and chair are included to make it easy for her to do her schoolwork.

A young son will vote for sturdy furniture with cleancut lines for his bedroom. Tailored draw draperies and matching bedspread in a dark masculine color are appropriate. Fabrics treated to resist soil and wrinkles will make him feel at ease and simplify your cleaning duties. He, too, will appreciate a roomy desk for homework and hobbies.

Whether you have a separate guest bedroom or furnish one section of a study or family room with a wall sofa, the most important thing is to supply your guest with as many conveniences as possible. Just consider what you would enjoy if you were the guest. Be sure the bed has a good mattress and that there are adequate facilities for hanging clothes, shelves and drawers for personal items. A bedside light for reading, a clock that keeps accurate time, and ashtrays will all be appreciated. The windows should have curtains and draperies that can be opened or closed as the guest prefers.



Luxurious pastel traverse draperies are adorned with a regally draped swag to make this bedroom window the center of attention. Fabrics need not be expensive.

Short curtains in sheer printed cotton with matching ruffled valance and synthetic marquisette "topper" dress this window to delight a young girl's fancy.

Draw draperies in a gay musical print set the theme for a young teen-ager's bed-sitting room. A bright solid-color valance unites the two windows.

To give this bedroom a decidedly masculine tone, vertical lines and strong color are stressed with these striped draw draperies in a coarse weave.













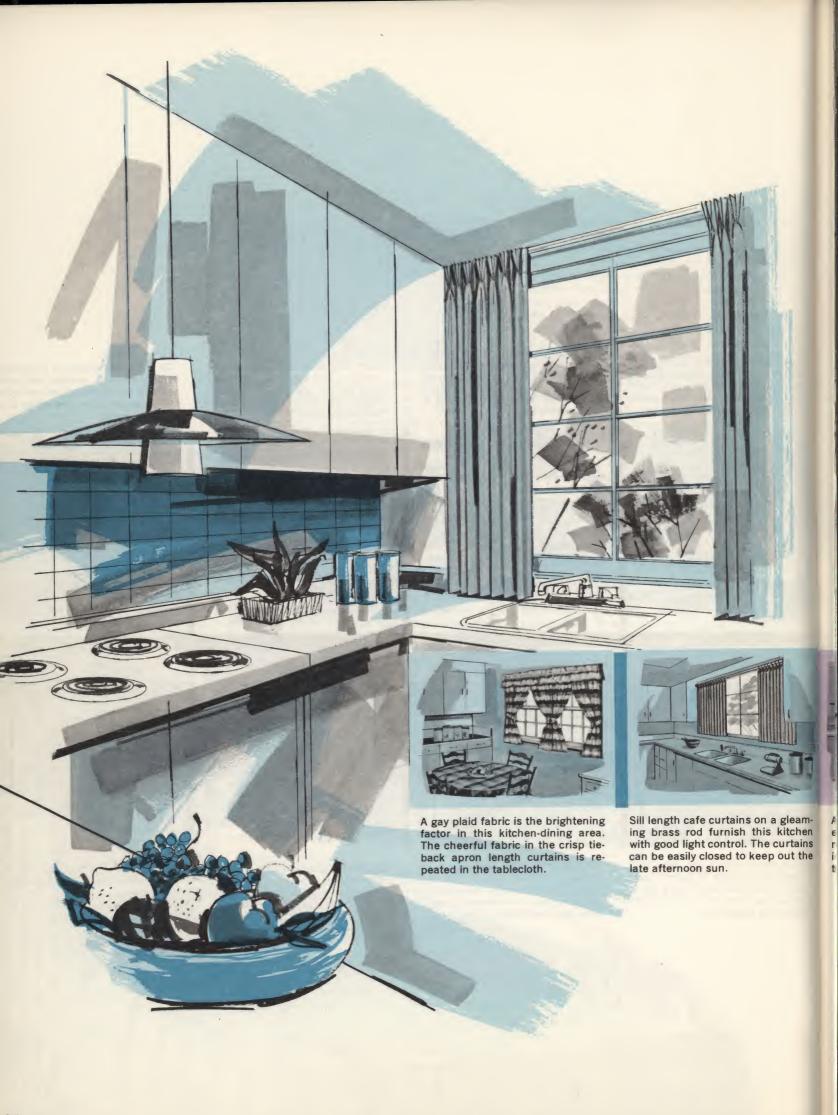




Here cafe curtains are used with traverse draperies to permit easy control of ventilation and light. Bedspread combines fabric of curtains and draperies. Delicately embroidered organdy tambour curtains give a look of luxury to this window. Americanmade tambours—now widely available—are reasonably priced.

To make children happy, decorate their bedroom windows with bright colors and interesting patterns. Choose styles and fabrics that are easily laundered.

For a boy's room, choose plainlystyled draw draperies and matching bedspread to blend with the tailored, masculine lines of the room's other furnishings.



KTHE ITCHEN...let it sparkle

"No matter where I serve my guests, it seems they like my kitchen best." This old saying is back in style today. Kitchens have taken on living room airs to become "living kitchens."

With all the modern conveniences plus the unlimited array of colors, patterns and textures available today, your kitchen can be just as enchanting as any other room in your home without losing any of its workability.

Have guests in the kitchen? Your mother might be shocked at the thought but back in great-grandma's day this was quite common because often the kitchen was the only room that was heated and comfortable. Now we are returning to the era of the big family kitchen where there is a place for everything including a spot for the family (and sometimes friends, as well), to eat.

If your kitchen prohibits having an eating area formed by built-in cabinets, then do it with your decorating. Pick a corner (with a window, if possible) and go to work with a little wallpaper, paint, new curtains and just about anything else you have on hand to make the eating area cozy and inviting.

When planning for your kitchen, remember the many hours each day you spend in it. Those should be happy hours, so keep it bright and cheery. And of course, you always want to plan for greatest efficiency and convenience. If you can't afford all the built-in cabinets and cupboards at this time then give your kitchen a lift in other ways.

How about some gay wallpaper with curtains of a matching fabric? The wall-papers of today are washable but if you prefer not to take the chance of being able to clean them, just use the bright paper in the dining corner. If your appliances are in a color, you will want to plan the room around this color. If they are white, then you have clear sailing to go into any color scheme you desire.

Gay accessories will give a big lift to a living kitchen, too. Spice racks, copper bottom pans, assorted pitchers or plates attractively arranged on shelves, plants



An all-over print in floor-length draperies sets the mood for a more formal dining spot. The pass-through is a handy arrangement when setting the table and serving a meal.



Two tiers of colorful cafe curtains adorn the windows in this efficient kitchen. Three wall planters are the only accessories added to the dining area with its matching cafes.



New window treatments can do more to make your kitchen cheery than any other single decorating item. Plants, pitchers and plates are attractively arranged on corner shelves.



A sheer polka-dotted fabric was chosen for these crisp kitchen curtains. The shirred valance is short enough to allow the casement window to open and close freely.

—the list is actually unlimited as long as they don't interfere with the efficient running of the kitchen.

Curtains in the kitchen should be kept simple and practical. Sill or apron length is best and a bright valance might be all you want at that shallow window over the sink. If you have a dining area, remember to choose a treatment that will afford your family privacy when they are eating. Often cafe curtains are the perfect style for all of your kitchen windows. But don't hesitate to use shortie draw draperies, if you prefer; they're perfectly proper in the kitchen.

Your kitchen is one of the most important rooms in your home. If it's pretty, then it will be fun to live and work in. So let it sparkle!

65



Bathrooms can be beautiful! Although they are the smallest rooms in your home, they represent a big decorating challenge. You can give them fresh eye appeal with new color alone and let them shine with style and beauty.

Today you can have either white or colored fixtures with never a worry about being outdated. Walls and window treatments can be carried to almost any extreme as long as you have a good color scheme and keep it. Tile, wallpaper or painted walls are perfectly proper as long as they can be kept clean and withstand the steam and moisture of a bath.

Towels today are usually the color accents in a lovely bathroom. You can change the whole theme in seconds with a change of towels! Dainty flowers, bold stripes and a multitude of solid colors are available. They can be combined in hundreds of ways for different effects. Pick your towels with an eye to their effect in your bathroom. Remember that no matter how pretty the color scheme is, your bathroom cannot become a serviceable part of your home without storage space. Look to one of the new jumbo medicine cabinets or a cabinet under the lavatory to give you that much needed and desired convenience—storage space. Adequate lighting is essential, too.

Window treatments, too, are unlimited as long as you remember to provide privacy and ventilation. Be sure to select fabrics that will shrug off dampness.

Take advantage of the fact that little changes make a big difference in a small room. They can transform your bathroom into a room of style and beauty.

BATHROOM/Color Belongs

Dress up your bathroom with gay wallpaper and curtains to match. Be sure to choose a pattern that is scaled to the room's proportions; usually a small one is best.



Neutral background colors can be enlivened by a change of towels or curtains. Here bold stripes combine with plain towels in contrasting colors to give the room fresh eye appeal.



Close-fitting shirred or cafe curtains can be held at your bathroom window with an adjustable spring tension rod. The rubbertipped rod will not mar the tile or plaster.





The family room was originally created to give the youngsters a place to "let off steam." It was usually found in the basement and referred to as the recreation room. Now it has come out of the depths to become a room where all members of the family spend time together.

It's a fun room. So relax and decorate it that way—with happy colors and novelty ideas of your own. Here is the perfect spot to display your youngster's latest crayon creation, the old piano you bought for a few dollars and painted to match the wall, and your own gaily embroidered wall-hanging.

A family room must be comfortable and provide fun for the whole family. It should be equipped for the family's recreation, leaving the

living room neat and uncluttered for formal entertaining. Often the family room is close to the living room so it can take party overflows or provide a change of scene.

A well-planned family room must be able to take a beating. Choose furnishings made to take *living*; stain resistant or washable vinyl upholstery, a smooth surfaced flooring and light movable furniture that can be rearranged in minutes. Make a provision for snacking and eating in the family room, especially when the television is located there.

Any window treatment that goes with the decor you have picked for your family room will be proper. Always remember that this room is just for fun so keep it gay, comfortable and informal.

No matter how you furnish it, keep your family room comfortable and simple. These plain draperies are appropriate with the clean, untrimmed lines of the modern furniture.



Family room furniture should be able to take *living*. Light, movable furniture such as these Early American pieces, that can be quickly rearranged for dancing or other activities, is often a good choice.



Crisp scalloped cafe curtains with a matching valance make an attractive window treatment for this family room. No definite period has been followed but the room is still inviting and comfortable.



Vinyl covered furniture and a smooth floor that is easy to care for are two important parts of this pleasant room. Cheerful shortie draperies at the window form a pretty background for fun.







Let's peek behind the scenes of all these windows beautiful. In other words, let's look back of the curtains and draperies—at all the varied and ingenious kinds of Kirsch drapery hardware that make even the most elaborate window treatments simple. As a blunt matter of fact, without the right hardware, no window can ever hope to look its best. It's like cooking—a recipe, no matter how tried and true, can be its best only with the use of the right ingredients. You can use the most expensive fabric or the most elaborate drapery style but only disappointment can result if you haven't started with a good basic ingredient—exactly the right drapery or curtain rod, properly mounted.

The variety of drapery and curtain rods is great, but they fall into two basic categories—stationary rods and traverse rods. The first category includes all rods that hold curtains or draperies "stationary" at the window. The second group, traverse rods, are those which allow draperies to be opened and closed,

by means of a draw cord or by hand.

Kirsch designs and manufactures rods of every type—from those that hold window treatments at the tiniest window to rods that handle draperies at wide expanses of glass wall in some of the world's largest buildings.

All the world around, where beauty counts, Kirsch is the choice. Among architects, designers and decorators, there is one international standard in drapery hardware, Kirsch. You'll find it in outstanding public and private buildings—famous hospitals, ultra-smart clubs, and posh hotels like the fabulous Fontainebleau at Miami Beach. The professionals recognize that in beauty, wide range of types, easy installations, dependable performance and sheer quality, there is simply nothing finer than Kirsch.

Kirsch also has complete lines of installation aids and drapery accessories. Whatever your window decorating problem, Kirsch Company and your local Kirsch dealer have the proper solution.

DRAPERY HARDWARE TERMS ARE IMPORTANT

be sure you know what they mean

You will be able to buy drapery hardware wisely if you understand the following terms:



Length: For adjustable rods, two dimensions are always given (for example 28"-48"). These dimensions show the minimum and maximum lengths to which the rod will extend. Cut-to-measure rods are cut to the exact length you order.



Projection: The distance that a rod projects into the room from the wall or window casing. Short projections are available for curtains next to glass, longer ones for draperies over curtains, blinds, etc.



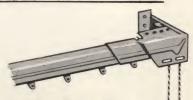
Return: The distance from the straight face of the rod to the wall or casing where the bracket is fastened, depending on projection. This measurement determines where the first pleat at the outside edge of each drapery will be located.



Overlap: When the traverse draperies come together in the middle, one panel should lap over the other by about three inches, to insure privacy. This is the "overlap." Oneway draperies extend over the end of the rod when closed.



Master Slides: The sliding metal arms which draw the drapery along the rod. To draw properly, the traverse cord must always be securely hooked in the back of each master slide. (When traverse rods don't work smoothly, always check the master slide first.)



Continuous Cord Lacing: Here the traverse cord is strung in one loop, for easy change-of-draw from right to left, and to permit the use of a tension pulley.

MEASURING and MOUNTING

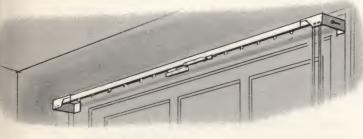
Before you buy your rods, you must decide which style curtains and draperies are to be used. For style determines where and how you will mount the rods and how long they must be.

Should the rod be installed on the window frame, on the casing or on the wall? As follows:



Inside casing mounting

1. For sash curtains, or any other style of curtains which will hang very close to the glass, rods can be mounted on the inside of the frame. Kirsch sash rods are supplied with necessary brackets for regular mounting; special inside brackets are available for traverse rods and curtain rods.



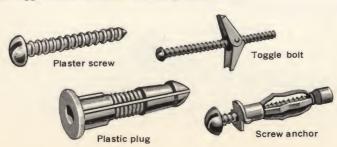
Casing mounting

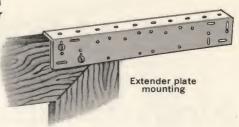
2. If curtains and draperies are to cover the window (not be extended beyond), the most conventional method of installation is to mount the brackets on the window casing.



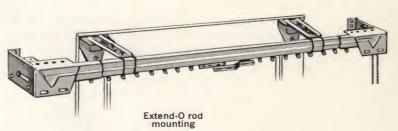
Wall mounting

3. There are several ways to make your window look wider than it actually is. With a wall mounting, the rod is extended beyond the casing and mounted on the wall. (Various types of wall construction may require plastic plugs, toggle bolts or other mounting aids.)

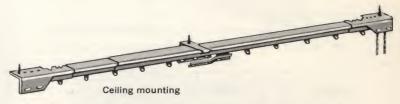




4. You can use Kirsch extender plates which are attached to the window casing. These plates are available in three lengths: 8¾ inches, 11½ inches and 18 inches. Rod brackets are then attached to the plates. (Extender plates mounted vertically make the window seem taller.)



5. Another way to extend a rod beyond the window is to mount special supports on the casing to hold the rod. The rod can then be extended up to 12 inches on both sides of the window. The end brackets are attached to the rods and serve as drapery returns, but they do not touch the wall. Kirsch Extend-O rods are made for this purpose.



6. For a ceiling mount, Kirsch Empire and Superfine traverse rods may be used; the brackets aren't needed. Regular ceiling track is slotted for direct mounting on the ceiling.



7. In mounting rods at a corner window, a single cut-tomeasure rod can be bent to fit into the corner; two oneway draw rods can be used with one installed fully into a corner and the other "butted" up to it; or two one-way traverse rods could be mounted on a single angle support in the corner. (To cover wall space in the corner, hang a stationary panel of drapery on both rods.)

Always get the measurement for width so you know how long the rod must be from end to end to do the correct job. (For measuring corner, bay and bow windows, see the section on cut-to-measure rods.)

Kirsch makes several installation aids that are useful in mounting rods. All Kirsch traverse rods and the Gold Seal line of curtain rods come with wood screws for casing mounts. But other fastening devices are also available. Plaster screws are strong enough to hold lightweight draperies in plaster or dry wall. Plastic plugs hold plaster screws more securely. Toggle bolts are ideal for extrafirm mountings for heavy draperies. Screw anchors or molly bolts also provide firm mountings for brackets on plaster or dry walls.

WHICH ROD SHOULD YOU BUY?

Kirsch ADJUSTABLE TRAVERSE RODS

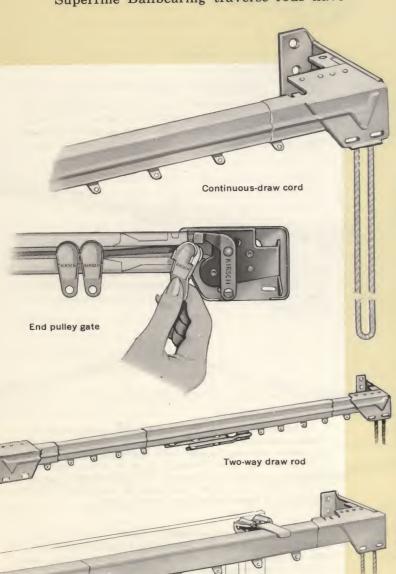
Kirsch adjustable traverse rods are available in six price ranges so there's sure to be a traverse rod by Kirsch to fit every budget. There are standard adjustable traverse rods for windows up to 18 feet in width and cut-to-measure rods for wider windows.

The incomparable Superfine gives you the very finest in adjustable traverse rods that can be used either as rods or as traverse track.

Superfine Ballbearing traverse rods have

ballbearing type pulleys for easy, smooth operation.

The Empire line, although it carries one of the oldest names in traverse hardware, has been kept right up-to-date in style and adaptability. Made from extra strong rodding, Empire rods can also be mounted either as regular traverse rods or ceiling track. Brackets to make this simple adjustment are sold as part of the rod. The Empire traverse line is complete.



Extend-O rod

The Easyglide traverse rod is a good quality serviceable rod with overlap master slides, nylon pulleys, adjustable brackets (with drop-in sockets) and supports. This line is available in rods from 28 to 150 inches in length.

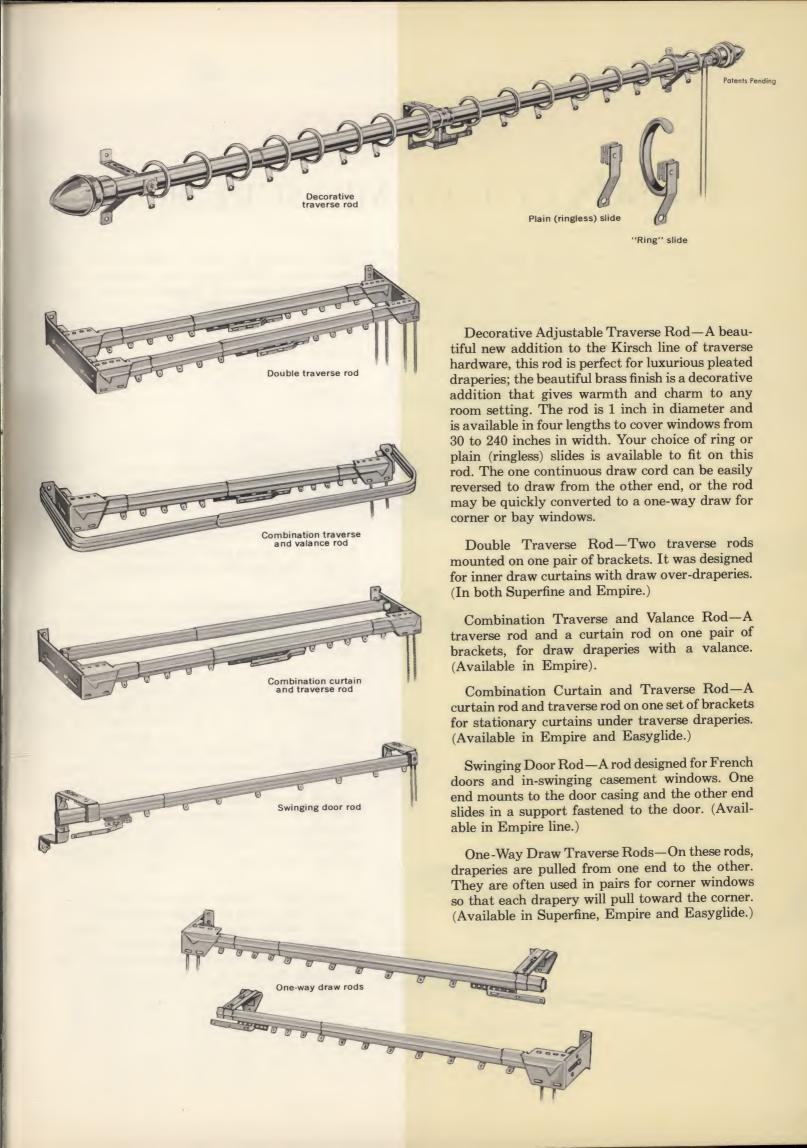
Kirco is the fifth line of Kirsch traverse rods and has set new value standards in the low priced traverse rod field. The Kirco rods come in four lengths to cover windows from 28 to 150 inches.

Finally, Economy traverse rods have numerous quality features which insure extra long, satisfactory performance, unique in their price range.

Superfine, Empire and Easyglide lines have continuous draw cords. End-pulley-gates for adding or removing slides are available for these rods.

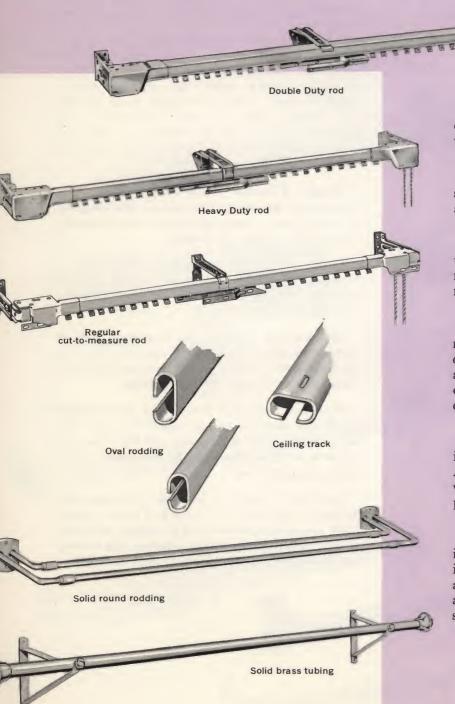
Adjustable Two-Way Draw Traverse Rod—A rod for draperies or pleated curtains that open from the center. (Available in all six lines.)

Extend-O-Rod—A two-way draw traverse rod for one pair of draperies or pleated curtains. It extends beyond the window casing at each side to make the window look wider without marring the wall. (Available in Superfine and Empire.)



Kirsch CUT-TO-MEASURE RODS

Kirsch cut-to-measure rod sets are "tailormade" to fit the window. Every type of drapery treatment may be achieved, including the widest wall-to-wall and ceiling-hung effects. By choosing from the large selection of Kirsch brackets and parts, any type of rod set—single, double, one-way draw, combinations and multiple draw—can be obtained. The following are all cut-to-measure rods and tracks.



Double Duty—Extra strong rodding for use as either a traverse rod or ceiling track with any weight fabric, at high or wide windows.

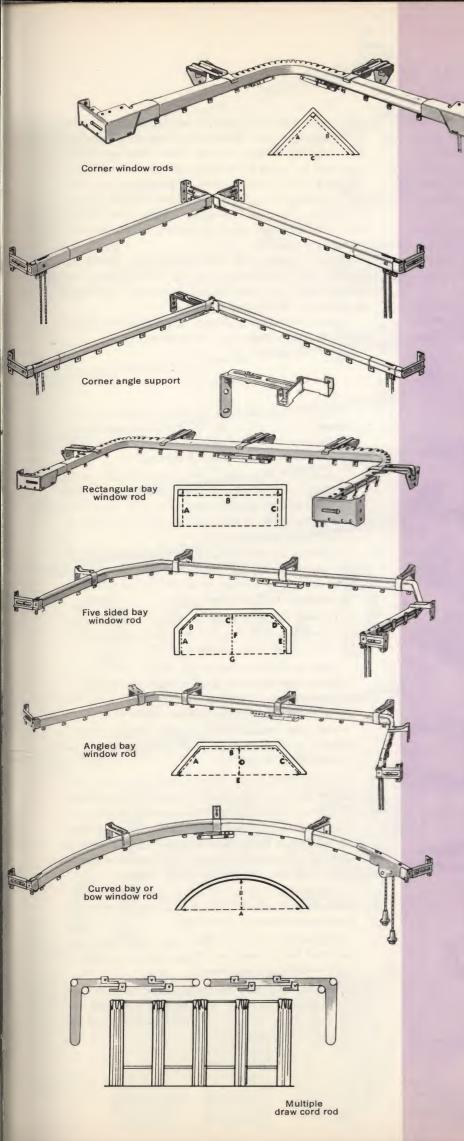
Heavy Duty—Traverse rod and ceiling track sets made of strong steel for maximum efficiency at large windows and with heavy fabrics.

Regular—A complete line of standard weight traverse and ceiling track equipment which is recommended for beautiful custom effects with regular weight draperies.

Oval Rodding—A complete line of "junior size" rodding and parts for stationary curtains and draperies. The sets can be custom-assembled to any length for corner and bay windows, crisscross curtains, curtains with stationary overdraperies or for ceiling mounts and tile casings.

Solid Round Rodding—This 3% inch rodding is the choice of many decorators for cafe curtains. A sturdy rodding, it can be cut and spliced to fit windows of any width. A complete line of parts permits installations at every type of window.

Solid Brass Tubing—Lustrous tubing, in ½ inch, ¾ inch, 1 inch and 1½ inch diameters, that is highly polished and lacquered. It is designed and produced for long wear and beautiful appearance. A complete line of brackets, supports and sockets for each size of tubing is available.



It's easy to order cut-to-measure assembled rod sets. Just give these basic facts to your Kirsch dealer: Weight of rod needed; the size needed including length and projection; and number of rods of each size.

For bay, bow and corner windows, a few additional measurements are needed. Sketches show how to measure for these windows.

For the corner window, give wall measurements, A, B, and C. Be sure to note the rod projections and type of set desired. A Kirsch cut-to-measure corner installation can be assembled in one long bent rod, or as a one-way draw set; tell your dealer whether mounting will be on the casing, wall or ceiling. Double traverse rods or combinations of a plain curtain rod and a traverse rod are also available for corner windows. Special corner angle supports give a neat installation with minimum projection.

For a rectangular (not angled) bay window, you need dimensions A, B and C as shown. (Sides A and C must be more than 15 inches.) A single rod with a double bend can be made from cut-to-measure stock.

At a five sided bay window, you will need all the dimensions shown with sides A and E being more than 15 inches. A cut-to-measure rod with four bends will handle your traverse drapery at this window.

For your angled bay window, your Kirsch dealer will need the three side dimensions as well as D and E before making up a cut-to-measure rod to fit. A single rod with a double bend will serve the purpose nicely.

A curved single traverse rod will be just the thing at the curved bay window. Measurements A and B are needed.

Cut-to-measure rods can be very effective as multiple-draw-cord rods at a group of windows. In this way, multiple windows can be treated as one decorative unit. One rod, with double insert pulleys and two continuous draw cords, can operate as many as four pairs of draw draperies at a series of windows. (In order for the draperies to cover each of the windows completely, all windows must be of equal width.)

Kirsch Curtain Rods

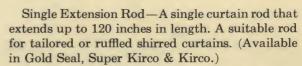
Three lines of Kirsch adjustable curtain rods fit windows up to 120 inches in width. If your windows are wider, there are extension sections available for even greater widths. There are single and double rods for corner and bay windows, curved rods for added dimension at ordinary windows, swinging rods for over-draperies and extender rods if you want your windows to look wider. There are also brass cafe rods in five different diameters and lengths up to 150 inches. All Kirsch curtain rods are easily installed (brackets are included).

Kirsch's top curtain rod line—the original flat rod—is the Gold Seal line. A doubled-under edge forms an invisible reinforcing that gives these rods extra strength without extra weight. It prevents the rod from bending, twisting or sagging. The leading edges of the Gold Seal rods are rounded for snag-free, easy shirring of curtains.

Super Kirco curtain rods are substantial quality adjustable rods for curtains and stationary draperies. The line includes single and double rods which extend up to 86 inches with extension sections available.

Kirco curtain rods are lightweight but good quality and available in single and double rod styles, sash rods and curved rods with extension sections for additional length.

Among standard curtain rods found in one or more of these lines, are the following:



Double Extension Rod—Two curtain rods mounted on the same bracket, designed for tailored or ruffled shirred curtains on the inside rod with a valance on the outside rod. (Available in all three lines.)

Criss-Cross Extension Rod—A combination rod for criss-cross ruffled curtains. The outer rod and curtain may be crossed to the left, or to the right, as desired. (In Gold Seal only.)

Curved Single Extension Rod—A curved curtain rod that adds dimension to tailored or ruffled curtain treatments. (Available in Kirco only.)

Curved Double Extension Rod—Two curved curtain rods mounted on the same brackets that give extra depth and formal beauty to all regular double curtain rod treatments. (Kirco only.)

Sash Extension Rod—A close fitting rod for shirred curtains on doors and windows. (Available in Gold Seal & Kirco.)

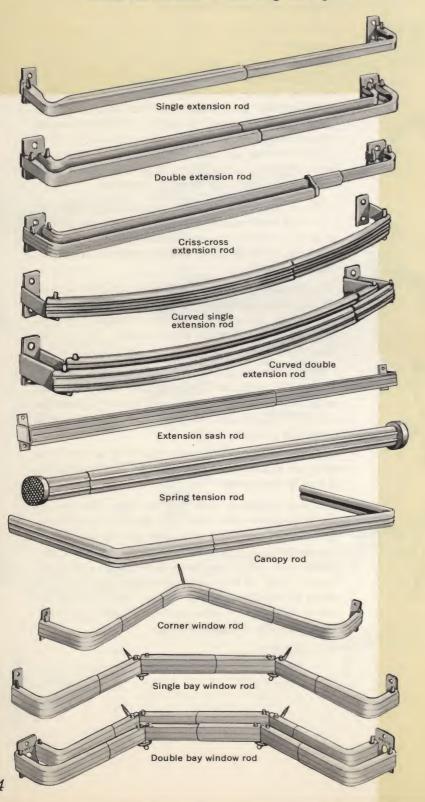
Adjustable Spring Tension Rod—A new rubber tipped spring rod for use inside casings with shirred or cafe curtains. No nails or screws needed.

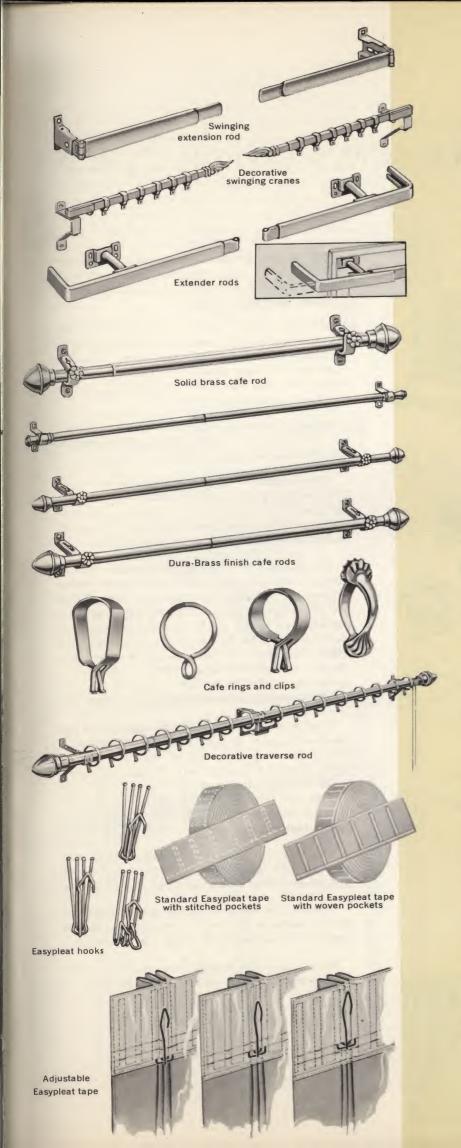
Adjustable Canopy Rod—A curtain rod with an eight-inch projection. It slips into the bottom hem of a canopy or valance curtain to act as a weight holding the curtain taut. (Kirco)

Adjustable Corner Window Rod—An adjustable curtain rod designed for stationary curtains at corner windows. (Gold Seal)

Single Bay Window Rod—An adjustable curtain rod for tailored or ruffled shirred curtains at a bay window. (Gold Seal)

Double Bay Window Rod—A rod arrangement for double curtain rod treatments at bay windows. Both of these rods are mounted on the same set of brackets. (Gold Seal)





Swinging Extension Rods—These rods in the Gold Seal line are ideal for stationary draperies, curtains, dormer treatments, and kitchen ensembles. The rods swing open allowing easy access to the window.

Decorative Swinging Cranes—Rods used for stationary side draperies. They too can be swung open back against the wall.

Extender Rods—Extender rods are for stationary draperies. They extend horizontally to make the window look wider.

Cafe treatments, as you have seen repeatedly through the book, are at home in any room. Tier and cafe curtains—for modern or traditional homes—demonstrate how effective window treatments can be without being costly. The beautiful, gleaming brass finish of these large diameter cafe rods adds richness and warmth to any room of your home. These rods are practical, too, because the rings glide easily on the rod to control light, ventilation and privacy.

Solid Brass Adjustable Tubing Sets—Solid brass cafe rod sets in 1 inch and 3/4 inch diameters.

Adjustable Round Rod Cafe Sets—Rod sets available in ¼6 inch, ½ inch and ¼6 inch diameters. The ¼6 inch and ½ inch diameter rods are available in Dura-Brass finish and also in either a black or white finish with brass plated fittings. The ¼6 inch rod comes only in a Dura-Brass finish. Extension sections are available for the ⅙6 inch size, for greater length. The Dura-Brass finish is a new process that coats the rod with a brass enamel finish that ensures a lasting, lustrous appearance. Brackets and finials are brass plated, and cafe rings and clips are available in both brass and plastic. The ring size should be "comfortably" larger than the tubing to allow free motion.

Decorative Traverse Rod—A 1 inch diameter rod in Dura-Brass finish for traverse draperies. The brackets and supports are brass plated. Rings and slides are purchased separately.

Easypleat Tapes—The easy way to make professional looking drapery headings. Easypleat tape is simply stitched to the heading and the pleater hooks do the work for you. The hooks are easily removed for cleaning and pressing draperies; easily inserted again when draperies are ready to be hung. Standard Easypleat tape is available with either woven or stitched pockets 1½ inches apart. There is also a woven Easypleat tape with pockets ¾ inch apart to give you twice as many pockets in the same length of tape.

A new adjustable Easypleat tape also has twice as many pockets for flexibility in spacing pleats. There are three vertical adjustments in the new tape, to permit the altering of heading heights to compensate for shrinking or stretching of the draperies. All Easypleat tapes are Sanforized or preshrunk. Your Kirsch dealer has fully illustrated step-by-step instructions to make your drapery sewing job easier with Easypleat.

ACCESSORIES FOR WINDOWS AND DRAPERIES



Baton

Kirsch extender plates are mounted on the window casing to make windows appear wider or higher. The plates are designed to hold any Kirsch drapery hardware bracket.

Kir-Flex eyelet rodding is an easy and inexpensive way to hang curtains or draperies at odd-shaped windows and doorways. Extra holes are provided for easy spacing of hooks. Perforated strips, two feet long, can be adapted for various uses such as supports and shelving.

Kirsch buckram or crinoline heading materials, up to five inches in width, give the added support and stiffness needed in drapery headings.

Lead weights of all shapes and sizes as well as covered lead weights and weighted tapes that can be pinned or tacked into the bottom corners of your draperies come from Kirsch, too. The added weight keeps the draperies in graceful folds.

Kirsch has the *correct hook* for every type of drapery heading and for every installation where traverse or stationary draperies are used. There are pin-on hooks, hooks to sew on and hooks that fasten like a safety pin by gripping the fabric at three points. Pins for stationary draperies hook right over the rod while those for draw draperies fit into the traverse slides. There are hooks designed especially for use with ceiling tracks, and hooks to hold headings erect. Only a few are shown.

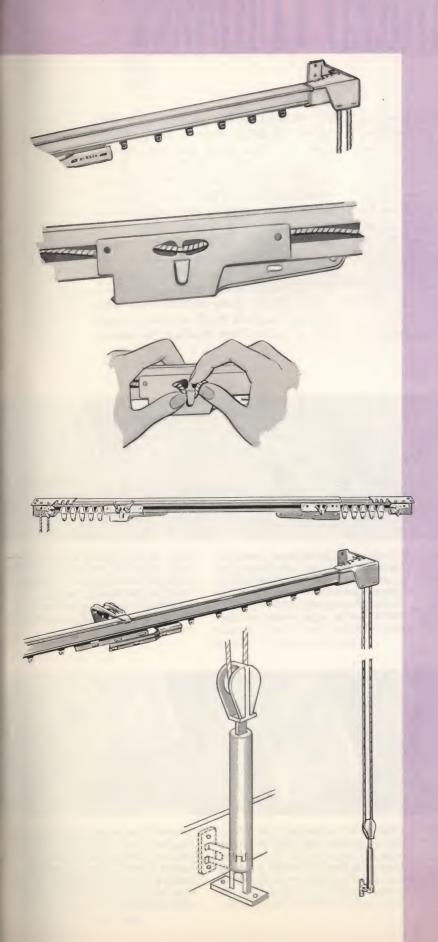
Cord tension pulleys, which are mounted on the baseboard, casing or floor, eliminate searching for cord pulls, keep cord ends off the floor (particularly good at wide windows), prevent cord twisting and simplify draw cord operation. Cord tension pulleys are packed with all Superfine traverse rods and are recommended for use with all Kirsch cut-to-measure rod sets.

The new cord operator simplifies draw cord selection and operation. A slight twist and an upand-down motion opens and closes the draperies.

Valance pleaters give you smooth, professional looking valances. Follow the instructions and you can easily create striking valance treatments.

Brass and ivory finished batons are available for use with cafe rods and hand traverse rods.

BEHIND THE SCENES



At first glance, you might look at a traverse rod and think it quite a complicated mechanism.

Actually, it is simple. It consists of a channelled rod which is attached to the casing or wall with simple brackets. The slides move back and forth in the channel and the cord runs back and forth over pulleys to open and close the draperies. That's all there is to a traverse rod.

Therefore, if you pull the cord and nothing happens, there really can't be too much wrong. Probably the cord has slipped out of the hook on the back of a master slide. With the rod still up, pull the cord to open position, look behind the rod and wedge the cord firmly back into place.

All Kirsch Superfine, Empire and Easyglide traverse rods are made up with a "continuous" cord, permitting the use of a tension pulley. As laced in manufacturing, the cord forms a loop coming out on the right side of the rod. This allows for "regular" right hand pull.

Changing to left hand pull, because of furniture or window placement, is easy: (1) Place the rod face down on floor or table. (2) Slip the cord out from under the hook of the master slide at your right. (3) Reach into the pulley housing near the end of the rod at your right, take hold of the cord where it shows there, and simply pull it down. Keep pulling until taut. Now when you install the rod, remember to replace the cord firmly under the hook of the master slide.

A tension pulley—as illustrated at left—is included as standard equipment with all sizes of Superfine traverse rods.

Both Empire and Easyglide traverse rods are laced with a continuous draw cord but cord pulls are included with them instead of a tension pulley. If desired, a tension pulley can be obtained from your Kirsch dealer.

If the cord pulls that are supplied with these rods are used and a left "pull" is required, be sure to follow the directions outlined above; then the cord loop can be cut afterward and the cord pulls slipped on the cord, with knots tied in the cord to hold the pulls in place.



HOW TO MAKE

SHIRRED CURTAINS

Even if you've never before sewed a stitch, you can make your own shirred curtains. They are, in fact, a great deal easier to make than clothing, and offer several advantages over ready-mades. Usually, you will have a wider selection of fabric by the yard and you can be sure that the sewing is neatly done, that all the threads are fastened securely, and your curtains are the exact size needed. Another not-to-be-overlooked advantage is the feeling of accomplishment you'll have when you complete your own lovely curtains.

Shirred curtains that hang next to

the window glass, sometimes called "glass" curtains, may be made of any sheer material, such as marquisette, scrim, lawn, voile and organdy. They may be used alone or with heavier over-draperies. (When heavier fabrics are used, we refer to this treatment as shirred draperies. If you must use a heavier fabric, be sure to select one that is soft enough to shirr. Usually, pleated headings are best when you use medium or heavy weight material.)

Just follow these easy step-by-step instructions, and you'll see how simple it is to make these window flatterers.



t, before measuring fabric, purse and mount your Kirsch adable curtain rods. Only then can measure each window properly, the top of the rod to the desired ain length. Use a yardstick or a l tape; a cloth tape may stretch. Remember this basic rule: Curtains may come to the window sill, apron, baseboard, or to the floor, never in between. Add nine and a half inches to your measured length for hem and heading. Allow two and a half to three times the window width.

After you have taken these measurements carefully, you are then ready to purchase your curtain fabric. Don't forget to buy thread to match. If you are using one of the new synthetic fabrics, buy thread of the same fiber.

Begin by cutting the selvages from both edges of the goods. These tightly woven edges have a tendency to shrink more than the rest of the material and may cause pucker. If the goods ravels badly, clip selvage instead of cutting it off.

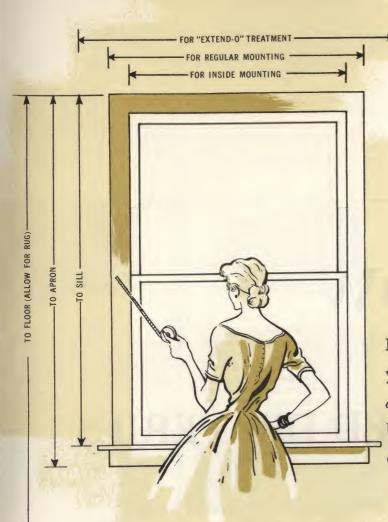


re is the neat, finished seam, npleted with very little work. Two is and just one row of stitching you have a narrow seam which hardly be noticed through evenery sheer fabric.

Curtains made from sheer fabric should have double side hems. Tuck the raw edge into the second fold, so that it won't show through. Make the first fold one inch deep and press it flat. Then make a second one-inch fold to complete the hem.

Press and pin a few inches at a time, placing pins at right angles to the hem. Take care not to pull any threads in the fabric while pressing and pinning. Also, be sure not to press over pins because this will leave ugly impressions in the fabric.

To sew the side hems, set your sewing machine at eight or ten stitches per inch. Use a sharp, new needle to sew all the hems. Remember to make a practice of pressing as you sew, and your hems will have a neat, tailored look.



Measure for
your rods first,
and mount them
before measuring for
curtains or draperies.



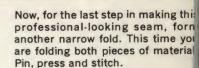
Next, cut your curtain panels. It is very important to make a perfectly straight cut so that the ends of the panels will be straight. To do this, pull a thread right out of the fabric, and cut along this line.



To seam together two widths of sheer fabric for one panel, make a narrow interlocking fell seam. Place the two pieces, one on top of the other, with the right sides together. Allow the seam-edge of the lower piece to extend about a quarter inch beyond the edge of the upper.



Next, fold the extended edge of the bottom piece of fabric over the raw edge of the top piece. Press this fold carefully in place. A protected table-top makes a good work bench.





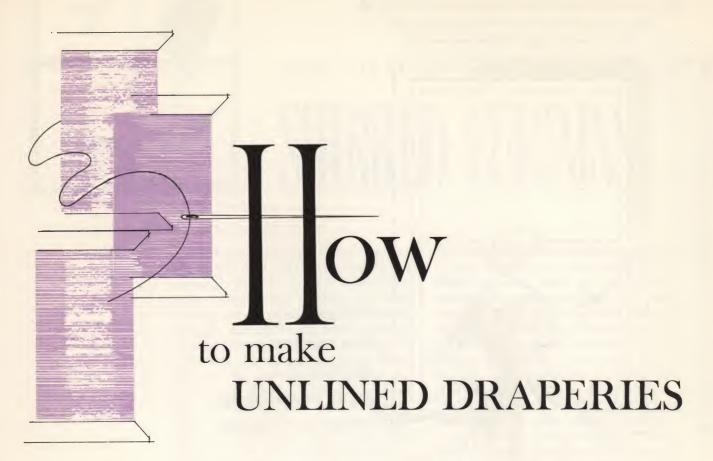
Make a deep, double hem for the bottom of your curtain. The first fold should be three inches deep, keeping the bottom edge of the fabric exactly on the same thread across the entire width of the panel. Press, and then make another three-inch fold. Press, pin, and sew.



You're ready now for the top hem and the pocket for a standard type curtain rod. Here, make the first fold two and three-quarters inches from the top, and press. Then fold the raw edge under only 1/4" and stitch, as shown here.



For the final step, make a pocket for the curtain rod. Place the rod inside the hem to be sure you are leaving enough room for the rod. Make a second row of stitches, and then press the entire curtain. Here is the lovely finished curtain Adjust the gathers evenly alon the rod, and the perky shirre heading will add the finishing dres maker touch.



If you have never attempted to make draperies for your home, you may be surprised to learn how easy and inexpensive it is—and how much fun. For your first project, unlined draperies are the easiest to make.

Draperies may be left unlined when you choose a fabric that appears equally attractive on both sides. Loose-weave cottons, some linens and other medium-weight fabrics can be used for making unlined draperies. Certain drapery materials including most casement weaves look best without linings, for sunshine filtering through brings out all the beauty of these fabrics. And whenever you use sheer curtains under your draperies, linings are not necessary.

To simplify the making of draperies with pleated headings (lined or unlined), you can use Kirsch Easypleat tape and drapery hooks to form professional-looking pleats without complicated figuring. The same Kirsch Easypleat tape can be used for double or triple French pleats, box pleats or cartridge pleats.

Luxurious Pleats with Easypleat

Kirsch Easypleat tape and hooks can be used to make various types of pleats for drapery headings. The tape is available with either stitched or woven-in pockets to hold the hooks firmly in place. When draperies are soiled, just remove the hooks, clean or launder draperies, and press them out flat. When the hooks are replaced, you will have the same neat, tailored and professional looking pleats as before.



Double French pleats are made with Easypleat tape and hooks by inserting only three of the hook's prongs into the pockets, leaving one prong free.



To make box pleats, insert second prong into a pocket. Skip one pocket and insert third prong into the next pocket. The two outer prongs are not in pockets, but slide behind the folds of the pleat.



Triple French pleats are formed by inserting the four prongs of the hook into four consecutive pockets.



Cartridge pleats are made the same way as box pleats. When box pleat is formed, insert rolled buckram in the fold to make the rounded pleat.



First buy and mount drapery hardware. Then buy Easypleat tape, allowing two and one-half times the length of the installed rod. At the same time be sure to buy Kirsch Easypleat hooks.



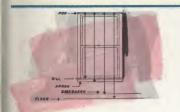
You can determine the exact width and fullness your draperies should be by pleating the tape before you buy your drapery fabric. Allow 4" on the end of the tape for the overlap at the center of the draperies.



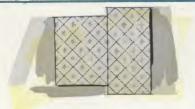
Starting at this point, 4" from end of tape, pleat up tape for one side of your drapery. Make pleats by simply inserting hooks into the pockets in the tape. Skip one pocket between each pleat.



Start at master slide and hang pleated tape on rod. Last pleat will come at turn of the rod. Allow extra tape for the return and ½" at each end to turn under. Cut tape, mark where hooks go and remove them. Length of tape is width of fabric needed. Repeat for other side.



Decide how long you want your draperies. Measure with a yard-stick or steel tape from the top of the rod to the point you choose. To this measurement, add six inches for the hem, plus half an inch for the top seam.



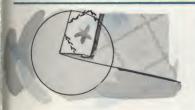
If you are making draperies of printed fabric, be sure to allow extra fabric for matching patterns. Panels seamed together for each drapery should match and the sides of a pair of draperies should match. And all the draperies in the room should match, window by window.



Purchase fabric and matching thread. Before cutting drapery panels, cut selvages from both edges, because selvages may cause seams to pucker when the drapery is cleaned.



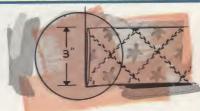
Lay drapery fabric on a flat surface for cutting. If it's necessary to join two pieces of fabric together to get the necessary width, use interlocking fell seam (instructions on page 79) or a French seam. Match the design in a patterned material.



Next, hem the sides of the drapery panels. Make a fold one and a quarter inch deep and press. Turn the raw edge under a quarter inch, press it down, and pin at right angles. Be careful not to pull threads in the fabric.



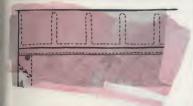
For best appearance, finish side hems by hand, using a blindstitch. If you prefer to use your sewing machine, set it for a long, loose stitch. This will prevent the fabric from puckering.



For the bottom hem, first make a three-inch fold and press. Then turn a second three-inch fold for the finished hem. Press, pin and blindstitch by hand for a neat-appearing hem.



With the drapery right side up, place tape across the top edge, covering one-half inch of goods. Pocket openings should point up with tape overhanging material ½" at each side. Pin and stitch.



Turn drapery over and fold back tape so it lies against wrong side of fabric. Fold under the half inch at each end and sew. Then stitch along the bottom edge of tape only below the pockets that are being used for pleats.



As the final step, completely press the draperies. Insert the drapery hooks in the pockets of the tape, and your new draperies are all ready to beautify your windows.



Draperies that hang in perfect folds have that "extra touch" that adds perfection to your window treatment. Here's what you do: After your draperies are hung, start at the top of the drapery and finger each pleat down about a foot or so.



Tie that section in position with tape but not too tightly. Continue shaping the pleats downward and tie every foot or so. Leave draperies tied in this way for two or three days and they'll hang in beautiful, professional-looking folds.

New Adjustable Easypleat Tape



Easypleat tape is now available in a type that allows you to adjust the heading height, and thus the length, of your draperies without altering them. This adjustable tape has three vertical adjustments and twice as many pockets, as regular Easypleat for extra flexibility in the spacing of pleats.



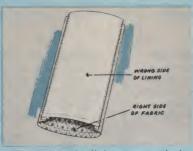
Normally, Easypleat hooks are placed in the middle row of pockets. If draperies should stretch, the hooks can be lowered to the bottom row to raise the draperies (as at left). If draperies shrink, the hooks can be raised to the top row of pockets, lowering draperies (as at right).



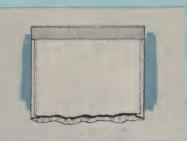
Hem bottom of drapery next: Make a three-inch fold and press. Make another three-inch fold, press, pin at right angles and blindstitch by hand. Now lay drapery fabric and lining out flat with right sides together as illustrated. Have tops and right edges of both fabrics even and pin along the right edge.



After cutting drapery panels, prepare the drapery lining. First, cut off the selvages. Cut lining narrower and shorter than drapery panels, as shown here. Make a two-inch hem in the lining, press, pin and stitch on sewing machine.



Next, slide the lining over and pin left edges together. Since the lining is narrower, the drapery fabric will bell out. Stitch each side on your sewing machine about one-half inch from edge. Pink raw edges to prevent raveling.



Center lining on the drapery and smooth it out carefully. Now you are ready to make the drapery heading. Pin a four-inch strip of buckram across the top. Stitch it on your machine about one-half inch down from the top.

While some draperies look most attractive without linings, others should be lined to look their best. Usually, a lined drapery will hang more gracefully and wear longer. A lining also will shield your drapery from dust and the direct rays of the sun. If you choose a patterned drapery fabric, it may need a lining behind it to keep the daylight from blurring the design.

White or cream-colored sateen is often used for drapery linings and there are many new and specialized fabrics which are also suitable. Be very careful to buy lining fabric that will not shrink more than the drapery fabric itself.

Very charming effects can sometimes be created by using a lining in a pale color harmonizing with your drapery fabric. Before buying colored lining material, however, hold a swatch of it up to the light with a piece of your drapery fabric to be certain the lining color won't confuse the color of the drapery. Take into consideration, too, how the color you choose blends with the exterior of your house.

The preliminary steps to making lined draperies are the same as those for unlined draperies, described on the preceding pages: Plan your window treatment, mount drapery rods, and carefully measure for fabric. When you purchase your sewing supplies,

you will, of course, buy lining material as well as drapery fabric, matching thread, drapery hooks and heading stiffener.

ow to make

You will need to determine your drapery width in advance. Use two to two and a half times the length of the mounted rod plus four side hems, overlap (three and a half inches) and

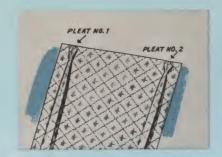
two returns for each pair of draperies. See pages on unlined draperies for measuring length.

You can make the pleated heading for lined draperies with Easypleat tape and hooks. This is the quicker, easier way. (See instructions on preceding page for using this pleating tape. With this tape no heading stiffener is needed.)

Following instructions are for triple French-pleated draperies with heading stiffener and hand-made pleats.



Lining and drapery fabrics now are stitched together at the top and on the two sides. Turn the drapery inside out like a pillow case and straighten it out. Center the lining carefully and press.

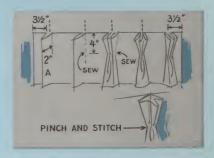


To locate where the pleats should be placed, first measure the return on your traverse rod. Your first pleat will be located at this distance from the outside edge of drapery. Pin each pleat as you go. Pleat number two will be placed three and a half inches from the *inside* edge. (This provides "overlap.")





Fold heading and bring pleats one and two together to locate the center point of the third pleat. Locate pleats four and five by bringing the center pleat together with the outside pleats. Continue this folding until you have the number of pleats you want.



To make the pleats, stitch each fold from the top down to the bottom of the stiffening material. Gather each fold at the base, as illustrated, and sew back and forth through it to finish the pleat.

lined draperies

DRAPERIES WITH SLANTED HEADINGS



Draw draperies with a beautiful cascade effect can be made for slanting windows. They must be one-way draw, to pile-up at the high side. The cord should be endless with a cord tension pulley.



For dimension pattern see diagram above. Locate the pleats. Then make a 4" level plateau for each pleat going up to your slanting top line for the start of each plateau. Face heading before cutting fabric. It is recommended that you consult a decorator or drapery workroom.

Cafe curtains, as one of the most popular styles today, are also very easy for you to "do yourself."

As you have seen, cafe treatments are at home in any room in your house. Although they can be adapted to any decor, cafes are especially good with provincial or Early American settings. Cafe curtains may be hung from the top of the window casing; they may be tiered; or they

HOW TO MAKE CAFE CURTAINS

may cover only part of the window. Among the heading styles for cafes are scallops, rolled or tubular pleats, simple pressed pleats, or handsome French pleats. Cafes may be left unlined or if they are to be used more formally, they may be lined.

When measuring for cafe curtains, always mount the rods first. If there are horizontal muntins or wood strips in the window, the cafe rod should be mounted even with one of them or at the top of the window. Always measure from near the bottom of the rings to the point your curtains are to reach. For tiered cafes, you can allow the top pair to overlap the pair beneath by about two inches, or you can let them stop at the top of the lower rod so the rod will show. Lower tier must stop at sill, apron, baseboard or floor. After measuring you will need to add six inches for the double bottom hem and several inches for the top, depending upon the style you have chosen. For fullness, allow at least twice the



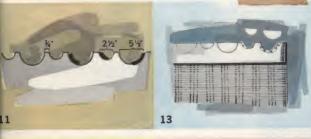
- 1. Cafe curtains with simple folds for pleats can be beautifully formal, as these are, or extremely informal, according to the fabric you select. Best of all you can make them in an hour or two!
- 2. For folded pleats, use a simple hem with the unstitched pleats pressed into place. Insert the pleat between the two prongs of a cafe clip and the single prong at the back holds the pleat firm.
- 3. Another cafe style made from straight hemmed panels is this. Clips are attached every four or five inches (no pleating) and heading between clips is pushed down to make lovely soft folds.
- 4. For scalloped cafe curtains, start by making a paper pattern. Here are instructions for a 48" curtain and you can easily adapt them to the width you need. Cut the paper the correct width and draw a straight line across it.
- 5. Crease the paper in half and place your compass (a cup, saucer or other round object 6" in diameter will do) where line and fold intersect. Draw or trace your first half circle at this point.
- 6. Draw three scallops on each side of first, leaving ½" between. Cut scallops out and pattern is ready. (Number of scallops will vary and diameter of scallops may vary depending upon curtain width. Experiment to get right size).
- 7. After hemming bottom and sides, lay the curtain panel out right side up and fold top down toward you allowing depth of the scallops (3" in this case) plus about 2" to finish hem.
- 8. Center pattern on fabric with points touching fold. Trace pattern and stitch along marking. Cut out scallops leaving about ½" on outside of stitching. Clip along curves every inch or so to avoid pucker.
- 9. Turn facing right side out and press it flat. Turn raw edge under and stitch. Press finished curtain and attach a cafe clip to each point. Slide it on the cafe rod and your curtain is done.
- 10. To make the pattern for rolled or tubular pleats, start with paper in the correct width. Draw a line and crease paper as for regular scalloped cafes. Alternate large and small circles all the way across.

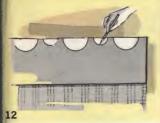
width of your window.

To start your cafe curtains, trim off the selvages and cut the panels, being careful to match the pattern. If it is necessary to seam the fabric together to get the width you need, make interlocking seams according to instructions on page 79. Put a one-inch hem on the sides and a double three-inch hem in the bottom of the panel. For smoothest appearance, put this lower hem in by hand or with a very loose machine stitch.

For pleated heading, as in large illustration at right, follow the directions for regular pleated draperies, pages 80 through 83. Instructions for making cafe curtains with simple folded pleats, scallops and rolled tubular pleats are included here.

Scallop sizes will vary with curtain width. Experiment to find best scallop size before cutting fabric.







- 11. Center a big scallop $(5\frac{1}{2})''$ diameter circle for a 48" curtain) at intersecting point and draw or trace. Allow $\frac{3}{4}$ " on each side and draw small $2\frac{1}{2}$ " scallops. Complete the pattern.
- 12. After cutting out pattern, put it on the curtain panel allowing at least a four-inch turndown at top. Center pattern with points touching the fold and trace around scallops.
- 13. Stitch all scallops and cut out leaving ¼" of fabric outside the stitching. Clip or notch raw edges of scallop seams every inch or so. Now turn heading right side out.
- 14. Turn the raw edge under and stitch. As you hang the curtain, roll the small scallops into tubes by lapping one point over the other, clipping them together with a Kirsch cafe clip.







Many experts recommend cutting a pattern from an old sheet or piece of muslin placed on the chair. You can then cut the different sections of fabric from the appropriate pattern, making sure to center any figure or design where it will show to best advantage.



After all pieces are cut, make one-inch bias strips to cover quarter-inch cording. Piece the bias strips together, diagonally, until sufficient length is obtained for covering length of cording needed.



With the wrong sides of the material out, pin the back pieces together across the top and down the sides to the arms, fitting snugly. While the pieces are still pinned, remove from the chair and mark the seams with chalk.



To right side of outer back at marked seam line, stitch cording across back and down sides to arms, being careful to leave enough cording free on each side to extend below the arms. (For a wing-back chair, fit wing pieces in same fashion and attach to back section.)



Baste inner back to outer back and turn the section right side out; place on chair checking for proper fit and pattern matching. Turn and machine stitch. Again place it on chair with wrong sides out. (Continue fitting all pieces in this manner-pin, mark, baste, stitch, with a try-on for fit between each operation.)



Pin all arm pieces together placing the cording in position and, after fitting and checking, stitch. Attach inside arm piece to front of back, being careful to allow for tuck-in at bottom. Then attach outside arms to outside back leaving left side open for zipper. Insert cording in these seams if desired.



(A) The piece underneath cushion may be of muslin or of the slipcover fabric. Attach this piece to inner arm and back, allowing for tuckin. (B) Fit and pin piece of slipcover fabric across bottom front of chair, placing cord in position. (This piece comes up under cushion about four inches.) Attach front piece to front inner arm and to muslin piece.

he room decides what the fabric and pattern should be and this choice is also affected by the other upholstered pieces in the room. The size of the piece of furniture is another determining factor. The right fabric in a dark tone can do a good job of making large furniture appear smaller. On the other hand, light colored slipcovers tend to make furniture look larger. Rough textures make a room seem more crowded and heavy pieces appear less bulky when smooth surfaced fabrics are used.

Take your time in making a slipcover. Be patient. Fit is the most important element. So fit and refit as you go—the tighter and smoother the cover, the more professional your finished product will look!

Among the fabrics commonly chosen for slipcovers are cretonne, chintz, linen, crash, poplin, twill, satin, sateen, monk's cloth, rep or woolen goods in ribbed or patterned weaves. It is best to select a preshrunk or Sanforized fabric. If necessary, shrink the fabric yourself before making the slipcover.

When estimating the amount of material needed for a slipcover, measure each part of the chair separately at its widest and longest dimension allowing one-half inch for seams. These parts include the seat, inside and outside backs, inside and outside arms, wings (on some styles), a loose cushion, and borders (on front of chair and cushion). For

the skirt, measure the distance around the chair allowing at least two or three times the measurement depending upon fullness you desire. If the chair has a soft seat, allow for tuck-ins on the seat, inside arms and inside back to prevent tearing.

The skirt can be gathered, pleated, or tailored with box pleats only at the corners. The length of material required is the length of the skirt plus two inches for hem and top seams. Several pieces can be seamed

together for this skirt.

Remember to allow for matching the stripes or designs in the pattern on the arms, back, seat, front of chair and flounce. If possible, choose a fabric that is wide enough to fit the widest part of the chair without seaming. (Of course, this is impossible with some chairs and sofas.) When figuring, don't forget to add about three-quarters of a yard for every 25 yards of cording or welt required if it is to be of matching fabric. (Your cording requirements are figured by measuring all seams which are to be corded, but 25 yards of the cording is usually ample for any chair.) If you don't want the welt to match, you can buy a ready-made contrasting welt or a fringe for the seams. After you have measured all parts and totaled the amount of goods you will need, add about two yards extra if the material has a large pattern that must be matched.



Insert zipper or snap fasteners into left back corner. Pin cording to right side of slipcover around entire base of chair. Remove cover and stitch. Hem skirt and pleat or gather as desired. If pleated, be sure to have box pleats at corners. Stitch skirt to slipcover at cording.



Place slipcover on chair and then cover cushion (see step #10). Not only will your new slipcover give the old chair a new lease on life but it will also bestow a fresh spark of beauty into your room.



(A) For cushion, pin pieces to fit snugly, wrong side out. Mark seam lines. (B) Stitch cording to right side of top and bottom pieces at seam line. Stitch bottom piece to side pieces leaving one entire side and at least two inches around each corner open for zipper. Insert zipper. Sew top to sides.



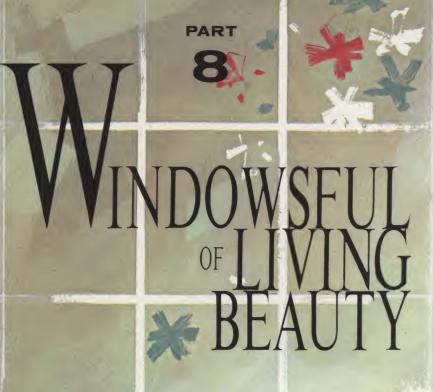
Geraniums will take your sunniest window. They'll bloom in summer and again in winter. Draw draperies can be opened for daytime sun and closed at night to make a pleasing backdrop for the colorful Geraniums.



Yes, Geraniums in the bedroom! For that extra touch, try a planter of pink or red Geraniums. They will be lovely against white traverse draperies.



Group African Violets together in an east or west window. They're easy to grow. Plan your window treatment to show them off to best advantage. Here Priscilla curtains make an interesting "frame" for the flowering Violets.



Soil—water—light! That's the basic formula for a windowful of attractive plants and flowers. In order to grow well, plants must have a home near a window that gives proper light. Also, to look their loveliest in your home, they must be considered as a part of the whole window effect or "ensemble." Therefore, curtains and draperies should be chosen to look well with the plants and also furnish good light control.

In addition to the beauty it brings to your home, window gardening as a creative hobby pays dividends of satisfaction as you watch young plants grow and bloom. If you are a beginning gardener, ask your florist for instructions when you buy the plants. Choose your flowers' pots with care, too, for they must provide proper drainage and also look well in your home. If your flowering plants are sometimes used as center pieces (and they can be most effective in such a role), use them for brief periods only, then be sure to return them to a properly lighted window.

For that extra gay touch in any room try Geraniums. They will bloom in the summer and again in the winter. Traverse draperies can be opened to give the flowers daytime sun, and when closed at night, will provide a backdrop for the colorful flowers.

Rubber plant, fiddleleaf fig and birdsnest fern make a fine group against semi-sheer draperies. Or use draw draperies with sheer curtains since all three plants like a filtered light. Pick your best window for a window garden; a bay or bow is ideal. Choose tiered tables or a plant stand that will hold both large and small pots. A variety of sizes and foliage-coloring will make an interesting effect.

The ever popular Philodendron, with its small waxy leaves and medium light requirement, combines beautifully with other plants. It is perfect as a basis for almost any plant arrangement, or may be used alone.









FINISHING TIPS AND TOUCHES

Here is the final group of idea-sparkers; among them you will surely find one or more that you can use along with other appropriate inspirations you found in this Kirsch Guide. Blend them wisely to bring new and true beauty to your home.



CONCEAL AIR CONDITIONERS AND RADIATORS

Hide a window air conditioner under one tier of cafe curtains. Curtains remain closed, hiding the unit when it's not in use. (You'll probably want matching curtains at all the windows in the room; they're perfectly proper under traverse draperies, can be taken down during months when the air conditioner isn't in use.)

Cafe curtains are a clever way to hide radiators, too. Cafe rod can be mounted to easy-to-make floor supports hidden by the traverse draperies. Sash curtains stop at the sill. Draperies must project far enough in front of the window to allow them to close over the cafe curtains.

Where radiators are concealed under attractive radiator covers—but you would like floor-length draperies, do this: Hang two-way draw draperies to the top of the radiator covering the window. At each side hang matching stationary, floor-length draperies from extension rods. These should meet the outer edges of the draw draperies and clear the sides of the radiators.

PAINTING KIRSCH RODS

Painting your Kirsch drapery hardware to match your walls or woodwork exactly is easy—decorators have been doing it for years! Simply paint the rods with the same paint used for the walls or woodwork. Keep the paint out of the inside of the rod, however.

ONE-WAY DRAW ROD RETURN

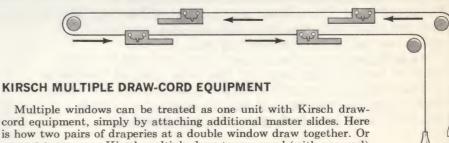


Now you can have a "return" at both sides of a one-way draw drapery. A Kirsch "around-the-corner" master slide carries the drapery right around the corner to make a perfect return to the wall.

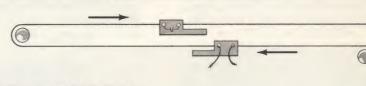


DRESSING TABLE SKIRTS

For a feminine touch when you are redecorating your bedroom or your daughter's, why not put a skirt on the vanity or dressing table? Eyelet embroidery, organdy, or the fabric used in the draperies or curtains would be proper. Make it tiered, ruffled, pleated or plain and mount it with hooks on Kir-Flex rodding attached to the vanity.



cord equipment, simply by attaching additional master slides. Here is how two pairs of draperies at a double window draw together. Or one cut-to-measure Kirsch multiple-draw traverse rod (with one cord) will control a pair of draperies in the middle with one-way draw panels at each side.



ENDLESS CORD INSTALLATION

"Endless" cord installation—as required for use with a cord tension pulley—is easy, too. Instead of knotting the cord ends at the pulls, knot them behind the master slide nearer the cord tension pulley. (Don't forget to secure the cord under the lug of the *other* master slide!) Combine these with a Kirsch cord selector, and you can open and close your draperies almost effortlessly.

CORD TENSION PULLEYS



A cord tension pulley not only simplifies draw cord operation but also eliminates searching for cord pulls, keeps cord pulls off the floor at wide windows, and prevents cord twisting. The pulley can be mounted on the baseboard, casing or floor; is recommended for use with all Kirsch cut-to-measure traverse rod sets.

BRACKET ATTACHMENT



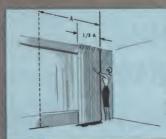
In attaching any bracket, don't drive the screws into the miter joint. Instead, use the extra hole found on Kirsch brackets.





DRAPE THE WALL FOR HANDSOME EFFECT

A drapery wall makes a beautiful background for furniture and adds drama to any room. Fabric and color are selected as you would for draperies and should either match or blend with the window treatments in the room. The drapery is made in the same manner as draperies for windows and hung from a ceiling-mounted Kirsch rod.



HOW TO MEASURE BUNDLING OR PILE-UP

It's often desirable to know how much space the draperies will take up when they are drawn open. This is especially important when you are using extended treatments to reveal the entire window. This pile-up or bundling depends on the kind of fabric you're using, but a good rule-of-thumb is, "Each side will bundle to one-third of its own full draw." Heavy fabrics take more space, light goods less.



JOINING DRAPERY PANELS

For joining drapery panels, simply slide one prong of a hook into the heading at the end of a panel, as at "A"—then insert the other prong into the heading beside the last pleat of the other panel, as at "B".

Or fasten panels together with hook and eye sets. Sew a hook on the loose overlapping corner and an eye beside the pleat. Other hooks and eyes may be used at intervals to the bottom of the drapery. Having the panels joined together in either of these ways is a great convenience when draperies are taken down for cleaning or laundering.



CORNICES AND VALANCES

One of the cleverest ways to camouflage a window that isn't quite perfect in proportion is by the addition of a valance, cornice or swag across the top. With a valance you can emphasize a simple window, visually lower a high ceiling or a high window or even give a low-ceilinged room a higher appearance.

A valance is a horizontal fabric trimming at the top of a window, while a cornice (in simplest terms) is a valance made of wood or other firm material. A swag is a formal type of draped valance, usually with cascading ends. Any of the three will do approximately the same job so that your choice and the general feel of the room are about the only deciding factors.

Unless you have a special reason for variation, the valance at its deepest point should be about one-eighth of the length of the draperies. Be careful not to make the valance too deep, because it can easily throw the whole design of the window out of proportion.

Valances can be gathered, pleated or plain. They are made just as you make curtains and draperies; see pages 78 to 83.

For a cornice, trace or draw a pattern on paper and try it at the window before cutting the wood.

Swags are made from a straight piece of fabric draped over festoon rings or pleated in valance pleaters.

STEP-BY-STEP WINDOW DECORATING CHECK LIST

(Follow these steps in order as you plan for your windows. As each step is completed, check it off.)

- 1. Match windows to be decorated with window-types. (Pages 4 and 5.)
- 2. List the basic window treatments suitable for each window. (Pages 6 and 7.)
- 3. Plan final window treatments for function, style, pattern, color and weave of fabrics. (Pages 8 through 67.)
- 4. List drapery hardware needed and measurements. (Pages 68 through 77.)
- 5. Purchase and mount rods. (Pages 68 through 77.)
- Measure for fabric. (Pages 78 through 85.)
- 7. Purchase fabric, lining material, thread, etc. as needed. (Pages 49 through 58 and 78 through 85.)
- 8. Make 'em yourself. (Pages 78 through 85.)

CANOPY VALANCE CREATES NEW DECORATING EFFECT

A canopy valance is a new and decorative feature that can be simple or fancy depending upon the fabric you select. It is perfect for a bedroom—over a window or bed, or over kitchen windows to give a canopy effect. An easy way to make canopies is to use an adjustable canopy rod with an eight-inch projection. Slide the rod into a pocket at the bottom of the valance to hold the fabric taut. A regular adjustable curtain rod is used at the top and you can either shirr the fabric on the two rods or put it on straight. The bottom edge can be scalloped or pointed for a festive look.



DECORATIVE TRAVERSE ROD

A beautiful touch for any room is the new Kirsch decorative traverse rod in gleaming Dura-Brass finish. This handsome rod is just right for any pleated draperies in formal or casual settings. Either "ring" or plain slides are available to give you the effect you desire. Try a two-way draw decorative traverse rod at a regular window or a pair of them as one-way draw rods at a corner window, for the perfect finish for your window treatment.



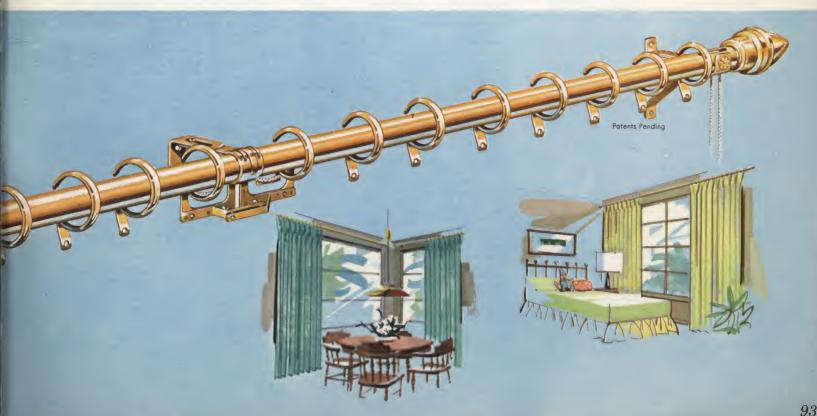
USE TRAVERSE DRAPERIES FOR HANDSOME ROOM DIVIDERS

Room divider draperies are an easy yet beautiful way to gain privacy or to create a room within a room. In a bedroom, choose a fabric room divider to separate sleeping and sitting areas or to create a dressing room. Or try a fabric room divider to hide the "cluttered" kitchen from the view of the dining area when you have guests for dinner. If you choose a semi-sheer fabric, be sure that it looks good on both sides. Or if you pick an opaque one (best in most cases), line it with a contrasting plain fabric or a pretty printed one so that it is attractive on both sides.

Draperies to be used as room dividers are hung from a ceiling-mounted Kirsch traverse rod, or from ceiling track.

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